



mine to form the work Sunflower on display in Adelaide yesterday. We have no particular excuse for using this picture today. On the other hand, neither of the participants are British politicians Photograph: Andrew Dunbar/AFP

# After the IRA, Sinn Fein's London move

Anthony Beyins David McKittrick and lason Benetto

On a day of Londoo chaos caused by IRA bomh scares. Sinn Fein, the terrorist group's political wing, esterday announced that it was planning a move to Westminster.

Martin McGuinness, who is the Sinn Fein candidate in Mid-Ulster and stands a good chance of winning, told BBC Radio 4's 7bday programme that his party expected to win three seats in the

new Parliament "We are prepared to go to Westminster. We are prepared to represent our people, and I think we will be able to do that quite effectively," Mr McGuinness said. It is understood that Sinn Fein is planning to open an office in Lon-

don as part of political drive to raise the party's profile at Westminster. He said that the party was very very hopeful that there would be three MPs elected - himself, Gerry Adams in West Belfast, and Pat Doherty, in West Tyrone - with a

While that did not mean that they would take their places in the Commions—an action banned by the party constitution - he said they would be making a move to London.

Vast areas of London were girdlocked yesterday after a fresh series of IRA bomb threats closed key roadways, railway stations and airports in the South-east. Hundreds of thousands of travellers had to endure hours of delays in the capital's worst ever

traffic jam. The IRA again used the tactic of "maximum discustion. minimum risk" with a spate of early morning coded bomb warnings. Unlike Friday's attack in Parties agree on polls

The Conservatives and Labour than just rely on opinion polls." last night accepted that the opinion polls were not accurately reflecting the real difference between the parties and said that research in yesterday's Independent was nearer the mark.

John Major said in Leeds: "The Independent interestingly enough actually chose to go out to the marginal seats, knock on a few doors and talk to people itself rather

Leading article, page 17 Donald Macintyre, page 19 Election '97, pages 9-12

Our survey of constituencies

found that contrary to the Labour

lead of 14-19 points in the polls,

the parties were moch closer and

that the Labour lead in target Tory

seats was soft and could change.

last night that the findings did not

unduly concern them, as their own

polling suggested a lead of "more

than 10 points - but less than 20".

Senior Labour sources said

which two devices exploded in Leeds and Doncaster, yesterday's operation was a hoax and no bombs were found.

At the height of the morning rush hour alert Paddington, King's Cross, St Pancras, Baker Street and Charing Cross mainline and tube stations were closed and the surrounding areas evacuated.

On the M25 there was a 10-mile iam and routes into the London from the west were gridlocked.

Gatwick, part of Heathrow, Luton, and Stansted airports were also closed. There were also bomb alerts at Dover harbour and the busy Watford junction rail station.

The success of the IRA's disruptive tactics has raised fears that the terrorists may target polling day next week. Last night. David Veness, the Metropolitan Police's assistant commissioner with responsibility for specialist opera-

tions, revealed that anti-terrorist plans have been drawn up to try and prevent voting disruption on 1 May. He acknowledged that the general election represented a "significant security challenge", but

he was confident that it could

be protected. tails Mr Veness said police had been planning how to combat any threat for a considerable period. He rejected suggestions that the emergency services over-reacted to yesterday's threats, stressing that they .

had to err on the side of caution. Mr McGuinness said in yesterday's radio interview that there was no question of Sinn Fein MPs swearing or affirming allegiance to the Queen, a statutory requirement for all MPs wishing to sit, speak and vote in the Commons. "And we don't recognise the

right of the British Government to

rule over this part of Ireland. Republican sources in Northern Ireland say that any Sinn Fein MPs can be expected to travel to London more frequently than did party president Gerry Adams during his 1983-92 spell as MP for West Belfast,

Sinn Fein has for over a decade been in the husiness of digging itself into the political system, and probably has more offices scattered over Northern Ireland than any of the other more conventional parties. There are also offices in various parts of the Irish Republic while in recent years others have

opened in Washington and Brussels. But the Sinn Fein constitution strictly forbids participation at Westminster, with candidates required to take the following oath: "I ... freely and solemnly declare that if elected I will oot sit in, nor take part in, the proceedings of the Westminster or partitionist six-

county parliaments." This requirement could only be removed by a two-thirds vote at a Sinn Fein and-fheis (annual coo-ference) and there are no signs that protected. the party is gearing up to abolish
While declining to provide dea tradition of abstentionism which extends back for decades.

Within those bounds, however, the republicans have for more than a decade adopted a more participative approach. This has seen them both contesting any and all elections and in holding meetings with almost any persoo or element which seeks cootact with them.

According to one republican source: "It makes sense for Sinn Fein to consciously try to build relationships with parties, to win frieods and be prepared to argue adn debate with anybody."

South-east chaos, page 4

# No escape from privatisation for NHS

# Jeremy Laurance Health Editor

Fifty years after the National Health Service was founded, hospitals are facing privatisation whichever party forms the next government, health-service managers warned yesterday.

Private companies are poised to take over the running of NHS trusts, including the provision of clinical care, as a coodition of investing in the oew huildings that the service urgently needs, the Institute of Health Services Management said. Although care would remain free to patients it would be delivered by doctors and ourses employed Fears that NHS hospitals

# QUICKLY

Co-op hits back The Co-op turned up the heat on Andrew Regan's Lanica Trust vesterday when it threatened to call in the Serious Fraud Office unices it receives answers to a number of questions in relation to a cam payment to a Cayman islands company.

Netanyahu rides storm Benarpin Neturyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, shows every sign of having ridden out the storm over his appointment of archief prosecutor who would go easy on his friends and allies in

would be privatised have been raised ever since the introduction of the NHS internal market in 1991 - and constantly denied. Now managers say it is inevitable because of cuts in public funding for new hospitals - amounting to 22 per cent be-tween 1994-99 - to which both main parties are committed.

A report commissioned by the institute, from Meara Management Consultancy, said efforts to replace the lost funds with private investment under the Government's Private Finance Initiative have failed because private investors fear the risks out-

weigh the potential rewards. Under the scheme, launched

buildings are leased to the NHS which runs the clinical services. More than 50 schemes have been agreed in principle - the largest being a new £170m hospital in Norwich - and more than 150 are in negotiation but none has been given the final

go-ahead.

The report says that NHS managers remain unconvinced that the scheme can be made to work. It says NHS trusts are demanding "unaffordable glitz" in new buildings, and health authorities are failing to make proper estimates of future demand. There are also worries about the legality of the scheme. in 1992, private companies design and build new hospitals and A second report by re-

manage support services such as searchers at St George's Hos-maintenance and cleaning. The pital Medical School says that pital Medical School says that hospital trusts are cutting back on the number of heds included in new schemes to make them more affordable which will lead to a "shrunken NHS". The report, to be published in the British Medical Journal this week says patieot throughput would have to increase to unrealistic levels to cope with the

reduction in beds. Karen Caines, director of the institute, said: "Both Labour and the Tories are saying they are looking to increase private investment in the NHS. If so, given the dismal performance of the private finance initiative so far, they will have to look at how they can improve it.

track record in the NHS had been one of "delay, bureaucracy, and immense frustration". It was launched without proper thought about the process, and few people understood the implications, she said. "If private finance is to be the way forward theo the new government in May needs to act urgently ... to

make the system work." Professor Chris Ham, head of the Institute of Health Services Management at the University of Birmingham, said there was an "inexorable logic" behind the private-finance initiative. "Investors who put their finance at risk will want to have a big say in how the hospitals are run. That will mean a seat on

Ms Caines said the scheme's the board ... and a say in the appointment of consultants. If they are not performing successfully the investors will be bound to step in to change the management or the doctors. The end of the route will be in-

creasing privatisation."

Michael Foot, the former Labour leader and biographer of Aneurin Bevan, said the founder of the NHS would be turning in his grave. "It is the thin end of the wedge. Bevan fought on many fronts at the same time against people who said his plan for the NHS was the wrong way to do it, and that if it took on too much it wouldn't work. But it wasn't true. There are better ways of saving money, through

# Five minute 20 second break pots £165,000

### Guy Hodgson

Mike Tyson has collected money quicker in the boxing ring and even Britain's horizontal heavyweight Frank Bruno has picked up hundreds of thousands of pounds for a few moments work, but Ronnie O'Sulfivan entered snooker history yesterday with the fastest 147 maximum in tournament play. With it, he

carned £165,000. van's maximum – 15 blacks and the six one visit to the table 5minutes 20 seconds, £147,000 bonus for

highest break during the Em-bassy World Championships, works our at £515 a second. In comparison, the £210,000 on offer to the eventual winner at the Crucible, Sheffield, for 17 days work is chicken-feed.

The frame, the 14th in his 10-6 win over Mick Price, put O'Sullivan through to the second round and a step nearer a potential quarter-final against Stephen Hendry who also is hoping to create a landmark of his own by becoming the first man to win the modern world championship seven times. "It was unbelievable to do

onships," O'Sullivan, who is ranked eighth in the world. said. "I haven't had a maximum in ages, even in practice, so to get it at the Crucible is fantas-tic. There is only one venue as far as snooker is concerned." "You could add, and his sup-

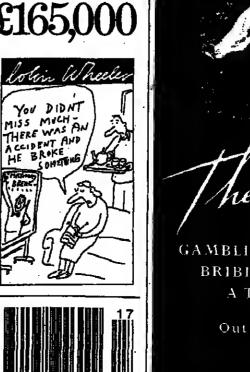
porters probably will do, that there is only one Ronnie O'Sullivan. The 21-year-old from Chigwell, Essex, compiled his first 100 break at the age of 10 and immediately broke Hendry's record of 36 consecutive victories after turning professional in 1992. He has frequently found the fame that n and £18,000 for the this in the world champi- comes with such exploits hard

to handle, however, and at last year's world championships he assaulted a press officer for which he was fined £20,000 and ordered to make a "voluntary" donation of £10,000 to charity. He was also given a two-year ban, suspeoded for two years conditional on his good conduct.

O'Sullivan becomes only the fourth man to record a maximum in the world championships, following Cliff Thorburn in 1983, Jimmy White in 1992 and Stephen Hendry in 1995. It is the 20th official 147 compiled in a maior tournament.

Winning potential, page 28





Euro to rival dollar the carro is set to rival the US dol- as the most powerful economic putty in the world. Page 14	reds, 15 h colours in c took just 5 and with a a maximum
THE BROADSHEE Business & City Comment Foreign News Home News	.20-22 .17-19 .13-15 2-7



GAMBLING, EMBEZZLEMENT BRIBERY, PERJURY, AND A TOUCH OF GBH. Out now in paperback

# significant shorts

# £2m for cancer patients after radiotherapy blunder

A £2m settlement has been agreed with almost 100 victims of a hospital blunder that resulted in cancer patients receiving the wrong doses of radiation, it was announced yesterday.

More than 1,000 patients at the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary in Stoke-on-Trent received incorrect treatment after a

machine was set up wrongly for nine years.

Lawyers for 95 of the victims and their relatives announced yesterday that their five-year hattle for compensation had coded with the agreement for £2m, plus "substantial" costs. The patients were given lower-than-prescribed doses of radiation after a

were given lower-than-presented doses of radiation after a computer miscalculated the amounts they should receive.

After the blunder came to light in 1992 the hospital admitted there had been a fault but had disputed whether it had caused harm. A report later said that out of 1,075 patients who had received wrong doses, more than 400 had since died and another 91 had suffered a recurrence of their cancers. It also said it was virtually impossible to say whether those who had died would have survived if it had not heen for the mistake.

James Evans, chairman of the group of solicitors who fought the

case, said survivors and relatives of some patients who had died would he told over the next few days exactly how much compensation they would receive. But he added: "No financial compensation can be adequate for the trauma they suffered."

### **Blackout in southern Scotland**

Thousands of homes and husinesses in southern Scotland were without electricity yesterday after a leaking pipe disrupted supplies.

Around 10,000 customers were cut off at around 7,30am in and around Kirkeudbright and Castle Douglas, Scottish Power said. The disruption was caused by a leaking pipe which flooded the Tongland sub-station in Dumfries and Galloway. Twenty schools io the area were closed for the day and social services such as meals-on-wheels were delayed. Scottish Power engineers managed to provide alternative power supplies for 7,000 customers. A spokesman for the power company said yesterday it was oot known when the remaining 4,000 customers still without electricity would

# Tracie Andrews pleads 'not guilty'



accused of the roadside murder of her fiancé Lee Harvey. appeared in court yesterday to formally enter a not-guilty plea.

Ms Andrews, 27, spoke only twice during the 20 minute hearing at Birmingham Crown Court to confirm her name and answer "not guilty" when asked how she pleaded to the charge that she murdered her boyfrieod oo 10 December last

year, Mr Harvey, 25, was found stahbed to death by the side of acountry lane at Coopers Hill in Alvechurch, Worcestershire, Ms Andrews' hail, with strict conditions, was renewed and the case was adjourned for trial - probably later this year.

### Woman-hating rapist jailed

A man who hated women, and who had a "game plan" to murder four females, was sent Indefinitely to Ramptoo high-security psychiatric hospital yesterday following a series of frenzied attacks.

Rodney Barnes targeted and stalked women on their own to terrorise, rob or sexually attack them. Police discovered he also had a list of 30 high-profile potential victims. Barnes was described by one psychiatrist as "prohably the ribst dangeous man range out in my professional career". He told police he wanted "to see out my game plan" – the murder of four female relations, including his mother and former wife. Barnes, 34 from Southern and former wife. admitted a rape, an indecent assault, seven robberies, an attempted robbery and a theft in six weeks, starting on 5 March last year.

### More strikes for firefighters

The dispute between fire officers and Essex County Council has worsened after the Fire Brigades Union announced two further strikes, despite warnings that any further industrial action will lead to the suspension of all crews. After a 24-hour strike on Saturday by Essex fire officers, army Green Goddess fire-engines and their military crews were agaio put on standby yesterday during a four-hour stoppage. The FBU say members will stage a 24-hour walkout on 29 April followed by a nine-hour stoppage on 2 May. The unioo are protesting at £1.5m in spending cuts which, they say, will cost at least 52 officers their jobs and put the public at risk. Simon Reeve

# Relief at end of loo-roll battle

Andrex left the High Court much relieved yesterday as the three-day battle of the loo rolls came to a close. Mr Justice Laddie flushed Nouvelle Quilted's latest promotional pack down the pan on the grounds that it could be mistaken for an Andrex product. In what the judge described as a "difficult" case of "passing-off". Kimberly-Clark was granted an injunction banning Fort Sterling. manufacturers of Nouvelle, from using the Andrex trade mark without adequately distinguishing the two products. Clare Gamer

### THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

AustralSchool	N1ands F15,00
50'(12m	haly L4,500
Charles 75500	Madema Esc325
CommaCL1.20	
Dering . Derin	NarugyN420
11.5 Pag 25p	
France Fr14	Span Pt:300
Germany DM4.5	
GreenDr450	Switzerland . Sh4.00
Lan erborat LEGO	164 4310

OVERSEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS Air mail, 13 weeks: Europe £110.76; Zone 1 Alactife East, America, Africa and Indial £184.08: Zone 2 (Far East and Australasia) £206.70. So order, please send Int to 43 fathanteer London F14 9TR or telephone 0171 538 8288. Credit cards welcome

BACK ISSUES Backyspies of the independent are available from:



# Musician takes Boy George to court over gay allegation

oy George, the former star of the pop group Cul-ture Club, became "obsessed" with a male musician and tried to "out" him as a homosexual after inventing a relationship between the two men,

tha High Court was told yesterday. Kirk Brandon, best remembered for his time with the "Goth-rock" groups Spear of Destiny and Theatre of Hate, is suing George, now a highly successful Dif-for maliclous falsehood.

The legal action relates to claims of a relationship between the two men in George's 1995 autobiographs. Take it Like A Man and a CD called Cheathess and Beauty, which contains a song about Brandon, titled **Unfinished Business**".

Boy George states in his book: "Sleeping with Kirk" wasn't sex, it was absolute love." But Brandon told the Count that George developed a crush on him and that compeled with a cut and a crush of him and that compeled with a cut and a crush of him and that the reference allogators is the country free and an affair with George, and that the reference and the people doubt all the country of the coun stems affected happine and describe and consist with the

Anger at Charles'

snub to academy

for inventors

Trevor Baylis (right), award-winning inventor of the clockwork

hehalf of Britain's unsung inven-

tors, after Prince Charles turned

down a request to be patron of a

Despite nearly two years' lohby-ing, Mr Baylis has falled to find

money - to support his dream. His

attempt to enlist the Prince, whom

he met last July at Buckingham

Palace, was refused on the basis

that he is already patron to 400 or-

ganisations, and has to turn down

You can get lottery money for

the arts - they say it's our culture.

But people have to realise that in-

vention is part of British culture too

- it goes back to the Industrial Rev-

olution, which produced so many

Ideas. Yet inventors never get sup-

port from government," he said. A Royal Academy of Inventors

would cost about £2.5m annually

for the first three years, he reck-

ons, after which it could be self-

fer advice and funding to people

people with ideas, who presently

who come to it with ideas.

financing. The aim would be to of-

"We're trying to give credit to

the majority of requests.

Royal Academy of Inventors.

any funding - including lottery

radio, has vented his frustration on

problems for a business associate at an importer stage in his career.

Boy George, who was in contribute stage for the stage of the hearing, which is expected to leading to 0 days, contesting the action and says tell authorable prantice regularly while they were staging in specific field order. "Unbelriows to me, in the midst of all sealth, it obsession for me turned into something fulfaction might call itself a grudge. Said Brandon, Electaine Goegge's attemptro. "Out" but was platigued staging and solarly reprehensible meanering staging that and solarly reprehensible meanering staging that the sock group IZ in congestion that her years stage than participant that her years stage than participant the solar stage of the st

# Billionaire's gift to Cambridge

The billionaire who made his money in milk and fruit juice cartons is pouring £2.5m into a new mathematics centre at Cambridge University.

Tha donation, by Swedish-born Hans Rausing, co-founder of tha packaging firm TetraPak, will fund around one tenth of the project, tha university said yesterday. Mr Rausing, 71, Britain's second

richest man, after being knocked from the pinnacle of the wealth league this year, was reportedly in-spired to make tha gift by an enthusiasm for cosmology and the work of Cambridge professor

Stephen Hawking.
Cambridge owes a debt of gratitude to punitive Swedish tax laws, which prompted Mr Rausing to leave his home country in the 1980s and settle in Britain.

He and his brother, Gad, became richer than the Queen in 1995 thanks to their carton - an invention inspired by their grandmother's sausage-making, in which meat was squeezed into a skin and pinched at both ends.

Since seiling his stake in the Swiss-based packaging group Tetra Laval last year for almost £3bn, he has retired to his West Sussex home, set in a deer park, and indulged his passion for vin-Lucy Ward tage cars.

# briefing

# **Young doctors alienated** by clipboard culture

Young doctors are alienated from the managerial culture of the NHS and only their commitment to their patients is preventing

them from leaving medicine, according to a study.

Growing pressure from managers with clipboards who treat them as "technical monkeys" and demand increased work rates is

them as "technical monkeys" and demand increased work rates is eroding their ability to provide caring, compassionate medicing, the report from the British Medical Association says.

The study, based on detailed interviews with small groups of doctors aged under 40 around the country, found the growing need for doctors to measure and account for their clinical actions meant they felt less in control and undergoined their course of unvarion. they felt less in control and undermined their sense of vocation.

Isobel Allen, of the Policy Studies Institute and author of the report said: "Many were resisting what they saw as a managerial takeover which threatened their values and practice.

She added that decree did not see themselves as "and like."

She added that doctors did not see themselves as "god-like figures" but equally did not want to be treated by their patients as "proprietors of a pizza parlour to be called up at any time of the day and night".

### MOTORING

# Stressed out behind the wheel

More than one in three drivers suffer from stress and muscular aches and pains after stints behind the wheel. Women are more likely to suffer stress than men and drivers between 35

and 44 get most anxious when motoring than other age groups, a survey has found. But nearly half of drivers do not bother to adjust their

seat, check their posture or even check their mirrors before moving off, the research, by motor insurance company Direct Line, found.

And nearly three in five drivers do not even bother to make sure they have enough petrol before starting out.



### TRAVEL

# Eurostar puts squeeze on airlines

The high-speed Channel Tunnel Eurostar train service is having a big impact on UK-France air services, official figures showed yesterday. The success of Eurostar's London to Paris service meant airline passenger numbers between the two capitals fell 12 per cent in 1996, the Civil Aviation Authority said.

In comparison with 1994 – before Eurostar operations – the oumber of air passengers between Loodon and Paris has fallen by 1 million, said the CAA.

But Eurostar's Loodon-Brussels service has not hit airlines so hard, with only 50,000 fewer people travelling between the two cities in 1996 compared with 1994, the CAA statistics showed.

The association's figures also revealed the UK's airports handled 136 million passengers last year - a 5 per cent rise on 1995.

### HEALTH

# Community care on the brink

Mental bealth services are close to breaking point in some parts of ritain as the community care system teeters on the brink of large, psychiatrists warned yesterday. In a hard-hitting report, the Royal College of Psychiatrists said the cause of the crisis was a damental failure in the development and implementation of

health policies".

The problems were not confined to the immediate difficulties posed by high bed occupancy rates in urban areas.

The college called on the Government to ensure mental illness

received the same priority in the NHS as physical illness, to put a hold on further hospital closures, to bring together social and health services and tackle staff shortages.

### **ASTRONOMY**

# Third tail spotted on Hale-Bopp

On a clear evening, Comet Hale-Bopp appears to have two tails - but European astronomers have now discovered that it has a third, consisting of sodium atoms. The discovery could lead to new theories about the composition of comets and the effects of the sun on them.

The most visible tail of any comet consists of dust particles thrown off as the rock and ice forming the nucleus heats up during the approach to the sun. Another, subsidiary tail is also produced. consisting of charged ions of elements from the oucleus. This is thrown off and away by the "solar wind" of plasma emitted from the solar surface. The sodium tail, the first to be discovered, is emitted in a direction close to hut slightly different from the secood, "ion" tail. More unusually, the sodium is in the form of uncharged atoms, not ions.

### Read ZAVHEMNDEPENDEN online every day on AOL

Call 0800 376 5376 for FREE software - quote "Independent"



# **NEWSPAPERS** SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 41\_2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

# Definitely a catch

are portrayed as fools and jack-

asses - whareas there's govern-

ment money for people who put

dead sheep in formaldehyda or makes piles of bricks, as long as

issance of invention."

les, for the African market. His

tures 20,000 radios daily and is

they call it 'art'. We want to start a

Mr Baylis developed a wind-up radio which does not need batter-

company, Baygen, now manufac-

opening two new factories. But it

was only after he allowed the idea to be shown on the BBC TV pro-

gramme, Tomorrow's World, that

Charles Arthur

he could get financial backing.

### DELL DIMENSION PI66a INTEL PENTIUM\* PROCESSOR 166MHz

- 16MB SDRAM
- 512Kb PIPELINE BURST CACHE 2GB HARD DRIVE
- 1STCOLOUR SVGA MONITOR 113.75TVIEWABLE AREA I
- INTEGRATED S3 VIRGE DX VIDEO WITH 2MB EDO VIDED MEMORY
- MID-SIZED DESKTOP CHASSIS
- MICROSOFT\* WINDOWS 95





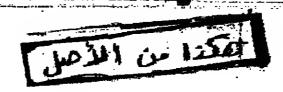
Some of our competitors claim to be offering better deals than us. But when it comes to offering so much for little. no one can catch us. Take the Dell Dimension P166a Power Platform. It comes with the awesome Intel Pentium® Processor

166MHz and a price tag of only £899 (£1.085.70 inc delivery and VAT). And just

to prove a point, it also includes a large 26b Hard Drive and a 15" monitor (13.75" vis). All in all, a better deal than anything put up by our competitors. Call us today on 01344 724 636 and talk to the world's largest direct PC manufacturer.\*



Visit our website: http://www.dell.com/uk Dell and the Dell logo are registered trademarks and Dell Dimension is a trademark of Dell Computer Corporation. The Intel Inside logo and Pennium are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. Microsoft. Windows. Office Professional 95 are registered trademarks of the Hicrosoft Corporation. Microsoft is a registered product may not shared at C25 1/29 17 int VAT1 per system Finance is available on request Prices correct as date of publication. The photographed product may not shared match the specifications in this advert. Prices quared refer to specification only. The prices displayed refer to specifications are subject to change without prior notice or obligation. Offer supplied with Windows 95. Dell mouse and keyboard included. Dell Computer Corporation Ltd. Missorke House, Western Road. Brackshee R612 1RD. Offer available for a lumited period only



scrati

13.3

- 44

732,4

4 4 March 12

# Scratch cards gamble on a relaunch

صكرا من الأصل

Michael Streeter

lated

? Witeel

On airlines

e brink

There is a remaind 

and in the second of the second

gar - the transfer of the following

Salana (Strain in part

CONTRACTOR STATE

ale Bopp

or math

att' mer bly gons one commend to

110

Lottery organiser Camelot yesterday confirmed a plan effec-tively to relaunch its scratch cards, after a fall in sales, and possibly to offer participants a chance to take part in a televi-

sion game show. Sales of the cards, which hecan after the successful launch of the Saturday draw, have slumped from a peak of more

than £44m to a low of £15m in scratchcard, started last sum-

the first week of this month. Although details have still to be hammered out, the campaign will probably introduce a variety of innovative games to attract new punters, and also give players the opportunity to compete for prizes in a televised

A clue to the new approach is shown by the success of Camelot's Pigs Might Fly

mer, which offered relatively low prizes of £10,000 but which gave a higher than normal chance of winning - one in four as against one in five.

Lower prizes but with a higher chance of success, involving "humorous" formats, are seen as the way forward. Christmas bonus cards have also proved

A spokesman for Camelot

sidering new ideas for scratch cards but was cautious about committing itself to specific ideas. He said: "We are always looking at new and innovative marketing initiatives for both the National Lottery game and Instants. We will continue to con-

sider new game ideas with more variety to broaden appeal."

yesterday confirmed it was con- impulse brands in the country - Coca Cola, Walkers and KitKat - and 10 million people play regularly each week." The company points out that in other countries such as the

US, instant games have slumped after launches, before recovering to gain a larger slice of the market.

If a new television show is He added: "The Instants launched, it is likely to be of-

contract to show the lottery draws until this autumn. Cards would have a separate panel to be scratched which would give the purchaser the chance to appear in the programme and win a variety of prizes.

Camelor claims that its advertising and marketing for scratchcards has produced a "halo effect" for the sector as a whole - boosting sales from brand still outsells the top three fered to the BBC which has a £43m to £100m a year. Around

thought to play instants at some time, with one in ten playing on a weekly basis.

Company sources said the fall in sales was not a "disaster" but that it needed to maintain or increase them so that, overall, commercial targets could be reached.

One said: "We did predict the market would drop but we did not want it to fall any lower."

back to early last year when the main lottery game offered its first double-rollover jackpot. Other scratchcard operators are thought to have seen similar falls in sales.

Another option is for Camelot to eschew altogether one-off prizes and instead offer regular monthly payments, as is done already in other parts of

# Children get a kick out of greens with

wacky veg

Glenda Cooper Consumer Affairs Correspondent

"Urruh, it's sort of squishy," wailed Rosa, 9, "I don't like it". As she gingerly picked up a spoonful of chocolate-flavoured carrots, her classmates took up the chant: "Eat, eat, eat, eat, eat."

To her right, Mohammed was shovelling down cheeseand-onion flavoured cauliflower, declaring it as "good as my mum's", while Liam looked as if he would be sick.

ing their noses up at vital fruit said, "I don't think its frivolous." and retailers are joining forces versity earlier this year found to try to lure them back to lov-

Supermarkets such as Safeways have launched "kid-sized". fruit and vegetable packs and yesterday Iceland unveiled their "wacky veg" range, consisting of chocolate-flavoured carrots, pizza-flavoured sweetcom, baked-hean-flavoured peas and cheese-and-onion flavoured contificwer.

They expect to sell £500,000 worth of the 99p packets in the next three weeks.

Of 300,000 people who develop cancer every year in the UK, around a third are diet related and potentially pre-

ventable. "There is a clear link between a diet high in vegetahles and cancer prevention, yet recent research highlighted that mums are losing the battle to get their kids to eat vegetables," said Professor Gordon McVie, director general of the Cancer Research Campaign.

He said that attempts to persuade children to eat their greens through bealth education had all failed and a radical approach was needed.

"I think it is a serious attempt versity earlier this year found that Christmas dinner was the only meal when most British children get an adequate intake of vegetables.

The researchers found that many mothers had given up forcing the issue of vegetable consumption because they disliked the stress.

At Gillespie Primary School, Year Four [eight- and nine-year-olds] named their least favourite vegetables as Brussels sprouts and peas, while their favourite, surprisingly, was hroccoli.

veg they were intrigued but not always won over. Liam,



like any vegetables, managed a small mouthful before declar-

nasty. They're awful. The sweetcorn is alright but I don't like the rest. I hate all vegetables."

Presented with the wacky

"They are sweeter."

ing them all "disgusting".
"I don't like the peas. They're

Rosa, next to him, was equally sniffy: "The carrots are slimy and they taste of toffee not chocolate," she said. "I don't

like squishy things." But those who had only ex-pressed a mild dislike of veg were won over: "They are nicer.

Mohammed and Ben had polished off the cauliflower and peas and wanted second helpings: "I love cauliflower. I reckon I eat vegetables once or twice a week at home. For lunch I think I would have hread, crisps and chocolate," said Mo-hammed. "It looks horrible but it tastes nice," said Mandy, stirring the carrots in their brown

"Yum, they're nicer than normal carrots," added George.

lieved: hubblegum hroccofi was one of the ideas which was rejected) kid-friendly snack packs of mini-carrots, therry tomatoes and individually wrapped apples and pears could be more ap-

The major problem was that few of the children could open the sturdy plastic covering.
Those who liked vegetables

them with enthusiasm, but those who did not want to eat For parents who halk at veg in the first place hated the views of many.

said George, nine, pulling an unholy grimace as he tasted a carrot. "Urgh, can I put it in the bin, miss?" said Liam after one taste of a cherry tomato.

Leaving the classroom, the children were asked what kind of chocolate bars they liked. Twix. Galaxy, Mars, Lion

out. And what kind of fruit? preferred the raw carrots to the Apples, oranges, grapes - then chocolate variety, crunching the names dried up. "I don't like apples, I'd rather have sweets, said Mehmet, summing up the



# Is Selina Scott really worth £1m a year?

Media Correspondent

Sky Television seems to have finally asked the question that has vexed many people for a long time:

why is Sclina Scott paid so much? The satellite television channel has confirmed it is pulling her latenight celebrity chat show, The Selina Scott Show, off air just six weeks after it launched. The programme will be back on air in July with a new format and will be given an earlier start time in an effort to kick-start

the show's flagging ratings.

One tabloid newspaper reported that one of her shows, broadcast on 17 March, had an audience of just 6,000 viewers.

Ms Scott was hired last November by the Rupert Murdoch-owned. station amid fanfare and reports in the Murdoch-owned press that she

was to be paid £1m for the show. It was yet another in a long line of allegedly well-paid but low-profile television presenting jobs that Ms Scott has taken in a frenetic career. She became a national celebrity

in 1981 when she was appointed a news reader on News at Ten, at a time when viewers were still more used to gravius than glamour.

Two years later, she moved to host the BBC's Breakfust Time pro-

gramme with Frank Bough and has continued ever since to move around for seemingly ever-increasing amounts of money, with-

out anyone being able to say exactly ed to make, indeed perhaps because of it, Ms Scott has been dogged by

In the mid-Eighties her pay took off when she moved to the United States to host an entertainment gossip show for CBS for a reported \$1m (£625,000) salary. Since then her every job change – from the Clother Show on the BBC to increasingly obscure satellite channels - has been accompanied by reports that she was being paid salaries of £100,000 or £200,000.

A talk-show on satellite station NBC Superchannel lasted just a year until 1996, then a meeting with Sam Chisholm, Sky's hard-man chief executive, brought the latest chat show.

For all the money she is report-

suggestions that she is all looks and no substance. Her low-brow reputation was set in 1983 when live on television she famously asked Fay Weldon, the chair of the Booker Prize jury, if she had actually read all the books heing judged. A mo-ment the BBC cruelly included in its TV Hell programme in 1992.

Her image was not helped by a fawning interview she conducted with the American property millionaire, Donald Trump, which prompted him later to write a letter describing her as "ingratiating" and "inse-cure". Stung by a painful profile in 1992. Ms Scott tried to defend herself by writing an article for the Times

newspaper. She denied earning £300,000 a year from two shows, but rather blew her chance of public sympathy by comparing herself with "many other single working women", and pleading: "I have absolutely no job security ... If I am ill I am not paid. I have no company pension and no company car.

In view of this week's news from Sky her 1992 article may also have created a hostage to fortune: "The only real test of talent in television, as in the theatre, is the ability to put bums on seats. Broadcasting organisations are not uniformly stupid. Cilla Black is ITV's highest paid star because she delivers a huge audience." Something which Ms Scott no longer seems to do.



### What chat show hosts earn

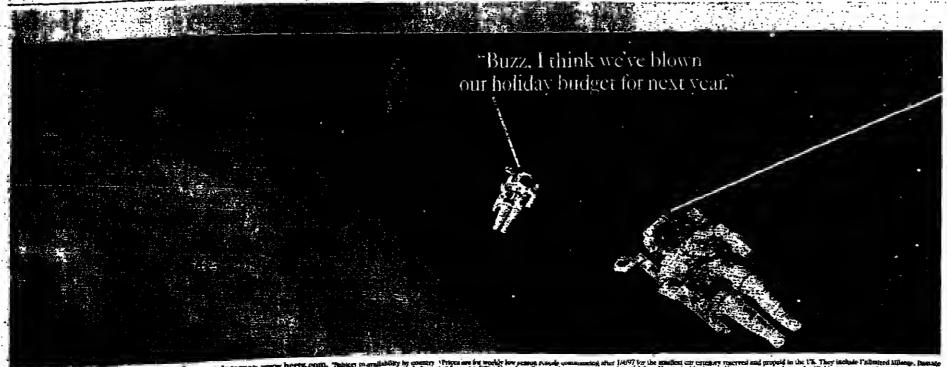
The richest chat show host in the world is also the most imitated. David Letterman cut himself a \$14m deal with CBS when he moved from the NBC network.

The best-paid presenter on British
TV is Cilla Black, whose Blind Date is in its 13th year for ITV and is indispensable to their schedule. She is estimated to make £3.5m out of her present two-year contract.

ITV has also made millionaires of Richard Madeley and Judy Finnegan, who were reported to make £1.5m for the daytime show This Moming and

the occasional evening interview. On the BBC, until Michael Parkinson returns, the best-paid tend to be newcomers. Ruby Wax is reported to be on £500,000, while Frank Skinner

gets £300,000 for his show. Old stagers Terry Wogan and Esther Rantzen struggle by on a pattry £200,000 and £350,000 respectively.



# "For only £13 a day we should have got unlimited mileage."

FLORIDA CALIFORNIA

BOSTON

SPAIN (MALAGA)

PORTUGAL

Check out these extraordinary prepaid weekly rates. That's more, all prices are backed by the Hertz Price Promise Guarantee, so if you can find a cheaper price for an equivalent rental from another UK car rental company, we won't just match it, we'll bear it by £1. Simply call your local travel agent, or Hertz, 24 hours a day on:.

PLUS GREAT DEALS ON UK RENTALS

£116

PRICE PER WEEK'



parent fight t school

# IRA brings London to a standstill

Randeep Ramesh Transport Correspondent

It was a day of disruption for millions of commuters in the capital. A meticulously worked out and cleanly executed terrorist plan to create confusion bought London's transport system to a virtual standstill vesterday.

Travellers found roads clugged, stations closed and aircraft grounded by bomb threats which targeted major transport hubs in the south-east of England

The warnings, assumed to have been made by the IRA, were timed to cause maximum chaos in the morning rush hour. At one point the Royal Auto-mobile Club described conditions on the roads as "some of the worst for many years, if ever".

At the height of the alert Paddington, King's Cross, St Pancras, Baker Street and Charing Cross mainline and Tube stations were closed and the surrounding roads and buildings evacuated

According to the RAC, London was a patchwork of areas either packed solid with stranded pedestrians and jammed traffic or cordoned off and eerily silent. Trafalgar Square was empty at one stage after police sealed it off.

On the M25 there was a 10mile traffic jam and routes into the London from the west were gridlocked. The disruption was

at its peak at 9am. You have 250,000 vehicles crossing the inner London cordon during the peak rush hour," Martin Mogeridge, a transport consultant, said. "If you targeted, say, four key points particularly in the morning rush hour where drivers have no choice but to carry on into London - then it is relatively easy to bring the roads to a

The first bomb threats using recognised code words were received by local shops and hospitals in the centre of London at 6.45am. The earliest targets were the capital's main rail termini.

At 6.49am King's Cross, London's lifeline to the north, was closed. Two minutes later, Charing Cross, serving south London and Kent, was also closed. At 6.53, Paddington was shut down. Surrounding streets were evacuated and buses on routes using central London streets were all diverted.

Air transport was the next to

be targeted. Luton, 30 miles north of the capital, was the first of the airports to receive a bomb threat at 6.52am. It was also the last to be back in action, reopening at 3pm with flights resuming more than an hour latcr. Two suspect packages were found during the search - a wooden box which was exploded by Army bomb disposal ex-perts in a controlled situation, and a package which proved to be harmless.

St Pancras and Baker Street, vital commuter links, were closed at 7am. By then the terrorists had switched targets, focusing on sea-faring passengers. At 7.20am, Kent police received a bomb threat to Dover docks. The harbour area was closed for 40 minutes for a search to be carried out, but

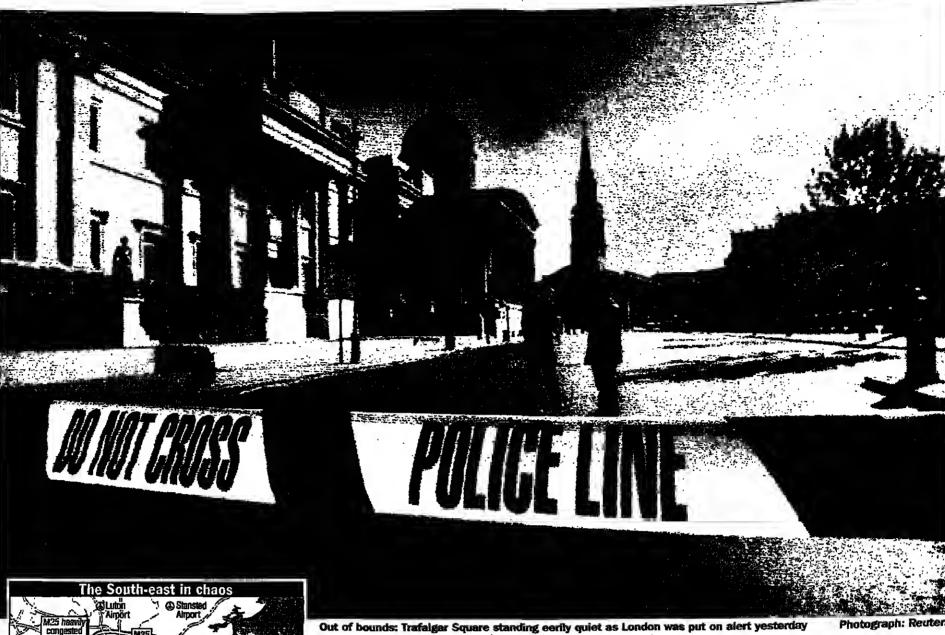
again nothing was found. Gatwick in West Sussex, the country's second busiest airport, was closed at 7.40am. More than 4,000 passengers were stranded in aircraft until the emergency was over and British Airways passenger jets circling the skies above the city had to be diverted to airports as far afield as Southampton, Bournemouth and even to Royal Air Force bases in Kent.

It was more than six hours before both terminals at Gatwick reopened, and then it was with only a patchy schedule. British Airways did not restart flights from the airport until the early evening yesterday. There were also closures at Stansted. in Essex, and Heathrow - where a suspect package was blown up by police at 9am.

The tense atmosphere led to many false alarms. London Underground's Juhilee line was closed for more than 20 minutes, reopening just before 9am after a suspect package on a platform at St John's Wood in north-west London had been checked. Rail stations outside London

did not escape. A coded telephone warning covering the three mainline rail stations in Watford in Hertfordshire, was received at 7am. Watford Junction, a busy commuter stop, was closed at 8.40am. Police carried out a controlled explosion just north of the station, and it was reopened soon after 1pm.

It was afternoon before the capital's rail network resumed, normal services with Paddington the last of the central mainline and Underground stations to reopen at just before noon.



# Nation defenceless against terrorist disruption tactics

Jason Bennetto and David McKittrick

The police and security services are "virtually defenceless" against the IRA's current tactic of using bomb threats to disrupt the transport network, terrorism experts believe.

At its most simple the strat-egy, which is intended to proluce chaos and disruption with little risk of loss of life, can involve one terrorist telephoning a number of targets from any-

The IRA know that as long as the calls include a known thorities are certain to respond. As Dr Michael Page, of Brad-

ford University's Department of Peace Studies, explained: "It's very difficult to protect transport infrastructure. You cannot have every signal box and motorway

bridge manned or monitored. The system is virtually inde-

"We are a free, open, democratic country, so we don't have vast numbers of police that can be positioned everywhere - its virtually impossible to deal with However, the terrorist tactics

do have weaknesses that can be exploited. To ensure their actions obtain maximum publicity and to maintain credibility, the terrorists need to plant placed or during recognisance

that they risk being identified. The use of closed circuit television cameras and enhanced public awareness of suspicious behaviour are considered by the police as two of the most important anti-ter-

rorism tools available. But probably more important is the role of the intelligence services, par-ticularly ML5 and Scotland Yard's Anti Terrorist Branch. IRA members are unlikely to be caught in the act of making a bomb threat, but via careful surveillance and the use of informants, active service units can

be tracked down. Dr Page believes the IRA might want to change tactics and target different forms of transport such as bridges or tunnels. some bombs, such as the device that went off in Leeds last Friday. It is while they are being the similar to last year's Docklands want another "spectacular" hit similar to last year's Docklands bomh, although this is more likely to result in death, which would seriously damage Sinn Fein's hopes of entering talks with the new government.

He said: "The IRA likes to change its tactics and to be un-

David Veness, the Metropolitan Police's assistant commissioner with responsibility for specialist operations, emphasised that "the security assumption has got to be that there's a threat to human life". Evacuation was not automatic, he said, but employed only after sophis-ticated assessment of the threat.

Dr Richard Clutterbuck, lecturer in security at Exeter University, said people were ready to take a greater degree of responsibility for their own safety, adding:"I would like to see the police tell us the dangers and let us decide on whether we

want to take the risk or not..."
Traffic disruption such as that caused by the IRA in Eng-land yesterday was once com-monplace in the early 1990s in Belfast, but has not been seen on a large scale in recent years.

make a few

a Direct Line

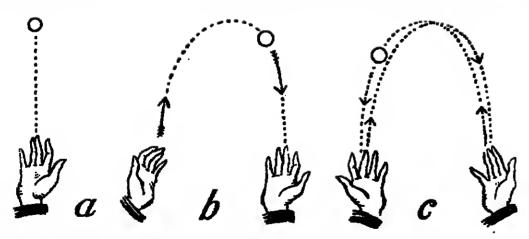
Battling for Chi

Car Insuram

Savings Account.

Downloading from the Internet without ISDN?

Here's something to pass the time.



The principles of Ball Juggling.

With BT's ISDN, downloading from the Internet is up to four times quicker than with an ordinary phone line. Because ISDN is digital, calls connect almost instantaneously and graphics can be downloaded much faster. ISDN pricing options start at a surprisingly low £199°. For details, call BT Businessconnections on Freefone 0800 800 800 now.

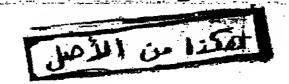
Commercian No. 5199, quantity line rental, \$133.75, minimum service period. 24 months (\$105 per only) incresses call alculance in first and second years

Freefone 0800 800 800

Freetar: 0800 900 995 e-mail: worksmart@whtbs.1.egw.bl.co.uk



From the award-winning author of City of Divine 1 an extraordinary pilgrimage from the shores of the Boson and to the said dunes of Egypt. Everything a really good travel book should be. Witty, learned and also very funny ERIC NEWBY None but William Dalrymple - and possibly Patrick Leigh Fermor could have produced so compulsively readable a book JOHN HALIUS NORWICH, Observer 'A rich stew of justory and there may are spiced with anecdote ... the future of travel literature lies in the hands of gifted authors like Dalrymple' SARA WHEELER, Lidependent OUT NOW IN HARDBACK # HarperCollinsPublishers



Call FREE on 0800 00 1066

cover is a speciality!

Hastingsdirect

# Parents launch fight to claim school places

**Education Correspondent** 

Parents of children denied places at popular local schools while other families cheat to gain offers are uniting in admissions blackspots to expose what they claim is the "myth of parental choice".

Amid evidence that in some authorities, hundreds of 10and 11-year-olds have still not been allocated places for September, some parents are pledg-ing to keep their children at home rather than accept offers from distant or low-performing

The anger of new campaign groups being formed to fight for changes to admissions is directed at schools and local authorities but also at parents who use devious means to snatch places in over-subscribed schools.

The Independent revealed that should not happen at the ex-last week how councils and in-pense of local families." dividual schools were being forced to clamp down to catch out families giving bogus adeas or falsely claiming religious beliefs to gain admission to church schools.

been squeezed out want new legislation to overturn the so-called Greenwich Judgement which obliged local authorities to accept children from outside their All but three schools in the boundaries into their schools. Conservative-run borough are

Scream By Rupert M Loydell

I urge the bookshelf to surprise me, staring

the words' music, poems float by unseen ... The river is swallowing fields, mud settles or is torn from the bank. Above, the air screams in pain. In the swollen current everything is unclear.

Savings Account.

0181 667 1121

through familiar spines. Taking down friends I've not met for a while, I pass over names I've ignored before. You mention strangers I should meet, as jets ting the sky overhead. Their song interrupts :

DAILY POEM

Today's selection from the Sacred Land Project anthology, Earth Ascending (Stride, £9.50), is by Stride Publications' editor. Sacred Land will be launched tomorrow in Englandwith a ceremony at St Mary's Church, Willesden, north-west

DIRECT LINE INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNT

0161 833 1121

**Battling for Cheaper** 

Car Insurance?

Is your premium over £250? You could cut your costs

campaign groups were launched last month in Hertfordshire, where around 180 children have no offer of a place for next year. Campaigners claim children from as far away as north London and neighbouring counties have been allocated places while their own children face journeys

school is either selective or specialist, with three secon-

daries selecting half of their

pupils purely on ability regard-less of where they live.

the Local Education Campaign

said: "Parental choice is a myth

in Wandsworth. It is only the

academic élite or children of

ing for school entrance tests."

schools in place of neighbour-

hood comprehensives. Those

place made their final choice.

rents who can afford coach-

A Wandsworth spokesman.

Karen Loughran, founder of

to school of up to 10 miles. The situation has arisen part-ly because Hertfordshire schools give priority to parents in any area who can make a case for a. school's suitability for their child before considering applications

based on proximity.

Michael Waller, of the Watford and South Herts Parents Group, said: "I and my fellow parents have no problem with schools attracting pupils from outside of the area to improve the standard of education available to all but

A Hertfordshire County Council spokesman said the anthority had done all it could dresses within key catchment ar- to accommodate parents' wishes and had squeezed 30 extra places into its schools.

Parents whose children have last week in Wandsworth, south London, includes families who live less than 500 yards from their local secondary school



said the authority had deliber-ately encouraged a range of Sharori Allen waits at home with her daughter Danielle knowing that she could have cheated children without offers would to win a place at their chosen secondary have places by September as parents holding more than one

school, writes Lucy Ward. Sharon and her husband Des, both property developers, own two houses just yards from St

حكة الأصل

Albans' Girls Grammar School, but missed out because they used their true home address three miles away - to apply to Hertfordshire County Council. With just four months to a new school year, Danielle, 11, is among 44 children in the St Albans area still with no offer of a

fellow members of a local pressure group, Parents Charter 1997, are threatening to educate their children at home unless a suitable choice is forthcoming.

Photograph: Edward Sykes

# Mayday! Mayday! It's too late.

# OFFER ENDS 30TH APRIL

Was £1,360+VAT (Jan.'97) (£1,598)



Compaq Deskpro 2000 5166 M1620 Intel Pentium® processor 166MHz, 16MB memory, 256KB cache 1.6GB S.M.A.R.T. hard drive with Fault Management Microsoft® Windows 95 or Windows 3.1 pre-installed Compaq 140 14" SVGA monitor Compaq AssetControl via Insight Manager, Comprehensive system security.

inside

Until the end of April our special promotion prices mean you will pay even less for any Deskpro 2000 with a Compaq 140 or V50 monitor. This means if you're a growing business

your budgets will now stretch to faster processors and larger hard drives. Not to mention even lower long term costs of PC ownership. All this comes from the number one brand in the world for desktop PCs. To take advantage of this offer contact your reseller or for promotion details send

off the coupon or call-us between 8.30am and 8pm (9am-5pm at weekends). OFFER ENDS Tel: 0990 50 00 20 30TH APRIL Tel: 0990 50 00 20

pentium

COMPAQ COSTS YOUTESS THAN CHEAPTR COMPITIERS

Mer closes 30.4.97 Offer tallid whole stocks has at participating resellers. Prices quoted are Compag recommended prices, Actual savings may vary, Photograph shows 15" munitor; price quoted refers to The Intel Inside logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation, Source: Market Research Agency International Data Corporation

# 'Oppression and deceit' that won police the Bridgewater murder confession

On first day of full appeal, QC tells how crime squad put pressure on suspect with a falsified statement

Patricia Wynn Davies Legal Affairs Correspondent

Police officers at the centre of the Carl Bridgewater murder in-vestigation combined a carefully contrived device of deceit with oppression to extract the con-fession that led to the jailing of the four accused, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Michael Mansfield QC. counsel for the late Patrick Molloy, said the attitude of the officers was such that when confronted with evidence of a tive Sergeant John Robbins. volunteered to "personally pull the handle on these men and open the trap-door and hang them, and he would do it with a bacon sandwich in his hand."

The accusations came at the start of the full appeal on behalf of the Bridgewater Four against their 1979 convictions for the murder of the 13-year-old newspaper boy at Yew Tree Farm, near Stourbridge, West

James Robinson, 63, and cousins Michael Hickey, 35, and Vincent Hickey, 42, who were released on unconditional bail in February, were present in the packed courtroom at the Royal Courts of Justice in London. Mr Molloy died in 1981 while serving a 12-year sentence for manslaughter.

In an extraordinary twist in the 19-year campaign to get the convictions overturned, the Court of Appeal freed the Hick-eys and Mr Robinson after an independent forensic test, completed a fortnight earlier, revealed that the police had falsified a signed statement from Vincent Hickey purporting to implicate the others and shown it to Mr Molloy to provoke him into making a false confession.

Mr Mansfield told the three judges, Lord Justice Roch and Mr Justices Hidden and Mitchell, that it had been "carefully analysed" which officers must have been involved in



Comrades: James Robinson (left) getting support from Gerard Conlan, one of the Guildford Four whose convictions were overturned by the appeal court

sisted up to his death that po-

that contrivance and in the oppression meted out to Mr Mol-loy, who was interviewed at least 30 times over 31 hours at Womborne police station, Staffordshire, in the run-up to his "confession." During the interrogation he denied involvement 80 times.

The QC said all the officers were members of the Regional Crime Squad Number Four and the members responsible for Mr Molloy were headed by Detective Inspector Geoffrey Turner. He deputed the since

John Perkins, who died in 1992, and Detective Constable Gra-ham Leake to interview Mr Molloy. The team also included DS Robbins, who was stationed outside the cell where the interviews took place, and Detec-tive Sergeant Dennis Walker. Mr Mansfield said many other more senior officers in the Staffordshire police may have known what was going on in the small Wombome station, in particular,

Detective Chief Inspector Wes Watson, who was there for much

Mr Molloy consistently in-

of the relevant time.

lice had shown him a statement under caution, which no longer exists, on which he read Vincent Hickey's name. It was the falsification of this statement which ultimately led Mr Molloy to make a confession - contained in the now infamous exhibit 54-and led the Crown to announce two months ago that it would not contest the appeal.

Describing the build-up of oppression prior to the extraction of the confession, Mr Mansfield told the judges that crucial interviews were con-

pentium'

with MMX Technology

add £150+VAT

& Speakers supplied may differ from

ducted in the cells, not in the interview room. "We say this was no coincidence. It was intended to provide an atmosphere of isolation and claustrophobia."

The majority of the interviews conducted by the crime squad officers were not entered in the custody record. This was no minor omission or administrative mess, the QC said. "The officers based at this police station, possibly going up as far as DCI Watson were turning a completely blind eye to what the regional crime squad were doing." One of the "ploys to break

Molloy", Mr Mansfield said, was to "plainly and blumtly disbelieve the denials and assert from the beginning that he [Mr Molloy] committed this murder, that he was guilty ... and that nothing short of a confession, at least to

presence at the farm, would do." The most important ploy of all was to hint that others had "grassed him up". Interview records showed DC Perkins telling him: "Do you see what we are getting at, Pat? You are on the brink of no return, the no-options position."

Carl Bridge murdered at Yew Tree Farm The appeal continues.

# Ex-editor faces jail threat in Iraq arms case

A former editor of The Independent said yesterday that he had not known of an order by a judge restricting the use of confidential documents crucial to the quashing of the convictions of factors and the convictions of the conviction of the convictions of the convictions of the convictions of the tions of four businessmen in an

arms-to-Iraq casc.

Ian Hargreaves told the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Bingham, that he had believed the newspaper was acting within the law in reproducing fragments of two of the documents in a report on the men's appeal.

The Attorney-General is seeking to have the newspaper fined for contempt of court for publishing the excerpts, Mr Hargreaves, together with Chris Blackhurst, the senior reporter involved, faces a possible prison sentence. At the Court of Appeal hearing in November 1995, the convictions of the four men, who ran Ordech an arms technology were overnology company, were over-turned on the grounds that vital documents had been withheld from their defence by the Government.

The men were convicted in 1992 of exporting an assembly line for manufacturing fuses for long-range artillery shells to Iraq. Senior ministers signed Public Interest Immunity certificates to prevent the disclosure to the trial of the documents, which revealed that Paul Grecian, head of Ordrech, had been work-

ing with the security services. Philip Havers QC, counsel for the Attorney-General, argued yesterday that Mr Hargreaves and Mr Blackhurst must have been aware that when the former Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor. ordered in July 1995 that the doc-uments be made available to the defence, he had directed that they be used only "in connection

with the proceedings".

The Independent argues that Lord Taylor at no stage made a formal order with sufficient

clarity to bind the press.

Mr Blackhurst told the court that he too had been unaware of the July 1995 order, and said he had not read the newspaper cutting in which it was reported. The case continues today.



Powered by an Intel Pentium Processor with MMX Technology

Now you can buy the amazing MESH Elite Ultima for only £1149 + VAT.

This fantastic system features full multimedia and Internet access PLUS a TV Tuner with Teletext and Video Capture.

This offer will end on April 26th, so don't miss out. Call MESH Sales now on 0181 452 1111. Delivery is within 5 days\* and there are 3 ways to pay\*.

\*3 ways to pay!

Pay Now - Delivery within 5 days Pay the whole amount by credit tard or cheque.
Total Price = £1350.06.

months.
Total Price = £1.350.08.

Pay ever 3 years No Deposit and nothing to pay for 6 months. Then £49,05/month for 36 Total Price = £1765.80 (199% APR).

OR Pay £500 Deposit and then £30.13 'month for 35 months. Total Price = £1548.68 (17.9), 4PR). Lifetime Achievement

At the PC Plus 1997 annual awards ceremony, MESH Computers Ple took the highly covered Lifetime Achievement Award for producing Award Winning Systems with

Excellent Service at a Competitive Price over the course of the last 10 years.

er tecent estator of comment on the MESA Bland there agains PC Direct Best Buy "For the money you'd be hard pressed

"Stunning. The MESH system is feature packed and at a very competitive price. What more could

you ask for in a PC." Computer Buyer Award Winner

"In terms of the best balance in features, presentation and performance, we unsurprisingly award the MESH our - Oct 96





**MMX Technology** ■ 16 Mbyte Fast EDO RAM

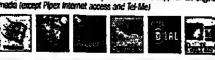
■ 1.7 Gb Fast Access E-IDE Hard Disk ■ 512Kb Pipeline Burst Mode Cache ■ 2Mb SGRAM ATI Rage II 3D Graphics ■ 2Mb ATI TV Tuner, Video Capture &

Teletext with TV Out (PC to TV) ■ 15" SVGA Colour Monitor ■ 12 Speed CD ROM

■ Creative Labs Soundblaster 16 ■ Stereo Amplified Speakers & Microphone **28,800 Fax/Modern with Pipex Internet** 

Access & Tel-Me ■ Windows 95 keyboard & Microsoft mouse ■ Windows 95 & Lotus SmartSuite 97 Accent Express Multilingual Word Processor

■ NEW Microsoft Encarta 97 ● Intel 430kW PCIset system board ● Dual Channel Fast Enhanced IDE controller ● 2 fast senal, 1 parallel & 1 game pours ● 1.44 Mb 3.5\* Froppy Dave ■ Alt software is pre-installed and supplied on prignal madia (except Piper Internet access and Tel-Me)





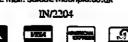
Tel: 0181 452 1111 Fax: 0181 208 4493 E-mail: sales@meshpic.co.uk

**Bonus Offer** 

than 100 design wizards, 7000 clipart images

Bundled free with the MESH Elite Ultima is PagePlus from Serif -

the easiest Desktop Publisher everl Perfect for small business and home users it includes more









# Planning to start your own business? Then come and talk to Lloyds Bank



f you're planning to set up a new husiness in the near future we'd like to help you. Lloyds Bank can offer you all you need to get started. And you'll feel more sure of success when you know you can rely on getting the kind of help and support your business needs.

By listening to what our customers want, we've developed a range of business services to help people like you.

In a recent Forum of Private Business Survey, Lloyds Bank came out ahead of all the other major high street banks on 15 out of 18 service categories. So you'll be in good company and safe hands with Lloyds Bank.

We are here to help you get your husiness up and running. The first step is to invite you to talk to someone who's interested in you and your ideas.

Call the Lloyds Bank Business Start Up Hotline on 0345 00 33 77. We'll arrange a no obligation discussion with one of our experienced Business Banking Managers local to you. They'll talk you through things like your business plan, marketing strategies, financing, grants and nur husiness start-up package. This includes ways of helping with book keeping, sales prospecting and debt collection and your first year of banking is free?. And if you need extra finance, they'll tell you about our attractive fixed interest rate starter loans.

Call 0345 00 33 77 today and we'll also send you a FREE Penguin Small Business Guide. It's the handbook to starting a business and it's already sold over 650,000 copies.

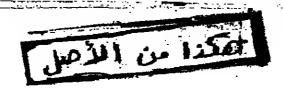




Lines open 9am - 8pm Monday to Friday, 10am - 2pm weekends. Please quote reference 1D22. The offer is only available to residents of England. Scotland and Wales



From a recreat survey of UK firms by the Forson of Princip Business, September 1996, Lloyds Bank Pic, 71 Lambord Street, London EC3P 388



- <del>1.2</del>

(-1, 2, 2, 3, 3)

Twitcher's plan to

ruitte

feathers

with new

militant

image

 $\operatorname{Pro}_{\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{S}_{2}}^{(n)}}(\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{S}_{2}^{(n)}})$ 

# Twitchers faces ail threa in Iraq ruffle footbors feathers with new militant image

reserves and more than 900 staff around the country. The smaller greeo organisations might envy these assets, but they have one thing the RSPB is chasing - a younger supporter hase of 25- to 40-year-olds. should be varied according to

"We're trying to give the RSPB a harder, younger edge, said Robert Tansey, strategic planner of the society's advertising agency Publicis, which yesterday unveiled a new, hard-er edged poster campaign. "The current membership tends to be slightly right of centre, over 50 and rather bloe stocking."

Even the society's celebrity

members tend to be getting on a bit. Liam Gallagher was a member of the society's Young Ornithologist Club, but is not among the society's adult members. Damon Albarn of Blur is a birdwatcher too, but the society does not have him down in Bedfordshire, huge areas of as a member.

Barbara Young, the organi-sation's chief executive, emphasises that the RSPB's roots are in campaigning: "We were founded to take oo the feather trade for women's hats in the last ceotury." These days it campaigns oo issues as diverse as reforming the EU's Common Agricultural Policy to make It more wildlife-friendly, over-fishing in the North Sea; and stopping water companies and



صكدًا من الأصل

tities of water from rivers and aquifers. It has even commissioned a study on eco-taxation; how the cost of car tax discs

incloding the birds.
Publicis has built a 10ft-wide bird's nest made of barbed wire in Norwich for the launch of the how much pollution a car procampaign. It plans a nation-wide duces. But all these campaigns

theme of conserving wildlife,

humanity's threats to many of our native species. Even the sparrow's population has halved in two decades, probably oo account of changes in farming

thirties think a lot more about the environment because they are starting to have children," said Mr Tansey. "We're targeting them with the oest idea be-

a oational direct-mailing recruitment campaign, to try to attract its one millionth member. The charity already receives £24m a year in donations, making it Britain's sixth-wealthiest

### Friends of the feathered

Paul McCann and Nicholas Schoon

The cozy binoculars and

cagoules image of The Royal Society for the Protection of

Birds is on its way out. Britain's sixth-largest charity wants to

relaunch itself as a more mili-

tant and campaigning environ-mental organisation embracing

younger supporters.
"People think of us as a

slightly cuddly birdwatching club," said its public affairs

officer, Paul Lewis. "But we

want to be seen for what we are,

a campaigning environmental organisation."

plans to sign up its millionth this

year, the society is a larger and

wealthier organisation than the

UK arms of Friends of the

Earth and Greeopeace. It has

a country bouse beadquarters

With 967,000 members and

Members of the RSPB include: Michael Heseltine, Kenneth Clarke, Sir David Attenborough, the television game show host Bob Holness, Joanna Lumley, Nige' Hawthorne, Richard Briers, but Oddle, Vic Reeves, Julian Petifier, Lisa Goddard and

# Haughey **'handed** £1.3m to clear debts'

Alan Murdoch Dublin

Charles Haughey, the former Irish prime minister, was secretly paid £1.3m by the head of one of Ireland's leading supermarket chains to help meet nuge personal debts, a judicial tribuoal in Dublin was told vesterday.

The payments, made be-tween 1987 and 1991 according to counsel for the tribunal Deois McCullough, had been traced through accounts in Ul-ster, London, the Isle of Man. the Cayman Islands and Dublin. Mr McCullough was sum-

marising evidence to be heard by the tribunal following allegations of extensive payments to politicians by Beo Dunne. Until 1992, he effectively had sole control of his family's clothing and supermarkets group with an annual turnover oow close to £1bn.

The revelations led last November to the resignation of transport minister Michael Lowry who received payments estimated by Dunnes at 1395,000, partly for work for the stores. But the cash channelled through intermediaries to Mr Haughey, who retired as Taoiseach in January 1992 and from the Dail in November the same year, helps explain one of modern Ireland's great intrigues.

Taoiseach four times between 1979 and 1992, few could fathom how his ministerial salary could sustain his regal lifestyle. large mansion, estate, thoroughbred riding stables and private island with holiday home off the Kerry coast.

The tribunal was also told there would be evidence that besides the payments arranged by Mr Haughey's hanker, Des Traynor, and Mr Dunne's company solicitor Noel Fox, three bank drafts with a combined value of £210,000 and made out in fictitious names were handed personally to Mr. Haughey by

Mr Dunne in 1991. Mr Traynor, who died in 1994 was both an accountact

with Mr Haughey's firm, Haughey Boland, and subsequently head of Guinness Ma-hon bank in Dublin. The payments began after Mr Traynor, a close friend of Mr Haughey's, had contacted Mr Fox, a key ally who had helped secure Mr Dunne's release af-

ter an IRA kidnapping in 1981. Mr McCullough said Mr Fox was rung by Mr Traynor who said he had "a significant busi-ness problem", which he un-derstood to mean that it related to Mr Haughey. Mr Traynor into Mr Haughey. Mr Traynor in-dicated he was attempting to as-semble a group of benefactors who would each pay £150,000 towards easing Mr Haughey's debts, then put at £700,000. Mr Dunne, when informed, suggested it would be better for

Mr Haughey if he (Mr Dunne) put up the entire amount to preveot the matter becoming pub-lic. Asked by tribunal counsel Michael Collins about the idea of five or six people providing money, Mr Dunne quipped "Jesus Christ had 12 apostles and one of them crucified him."

The tribunal revelations em-anate from disclosures of widespread payments to politicians made in legal documents by Mr Dunne during a 1992-93 family dispute that preceded the break-up of the Dunnes Stores controlling trust.

Mr Dunne's brothers and

sisters bought out his share of the company for a reported sum of £150m after an embarrassing scandal in which Mr Dunne tried to jump from an Orlando hotel balcony after a drink and cocaine sessioo with a call-girl. After Mr Dunne left the

firm, letters were sent to Mr Haughey by Dunnes lawyers when - under new management - the company sought return of its money, the tribunal was told. Mr Haughey wrote in re-ply denying he received funds from either Dunnes or a related company and insisting he had oot henefited from any im-

proper payments. The hearing is expected to continue for several weeks.

# WHO ARE YOU GOING TO VOTE FOR?

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER	6.40% GROSS PA	V
BRITANNIA	6.00% GROSS PA	;
NATIONWIDE	6.20% GROSS PA	
HALIFAX	5.60% GROSS P.A	
WOOLWICH	5.40% GROSS PA.	
ABBEY NATIONAL	5.00% GROSS PA.	

It may be decision time, but there's really no contest.

Our new account, Platinum Plus offers outstanding interest rates. On amounts of £2,500 or more its rates cannot be beaten by any top ten building society branch based notice account:

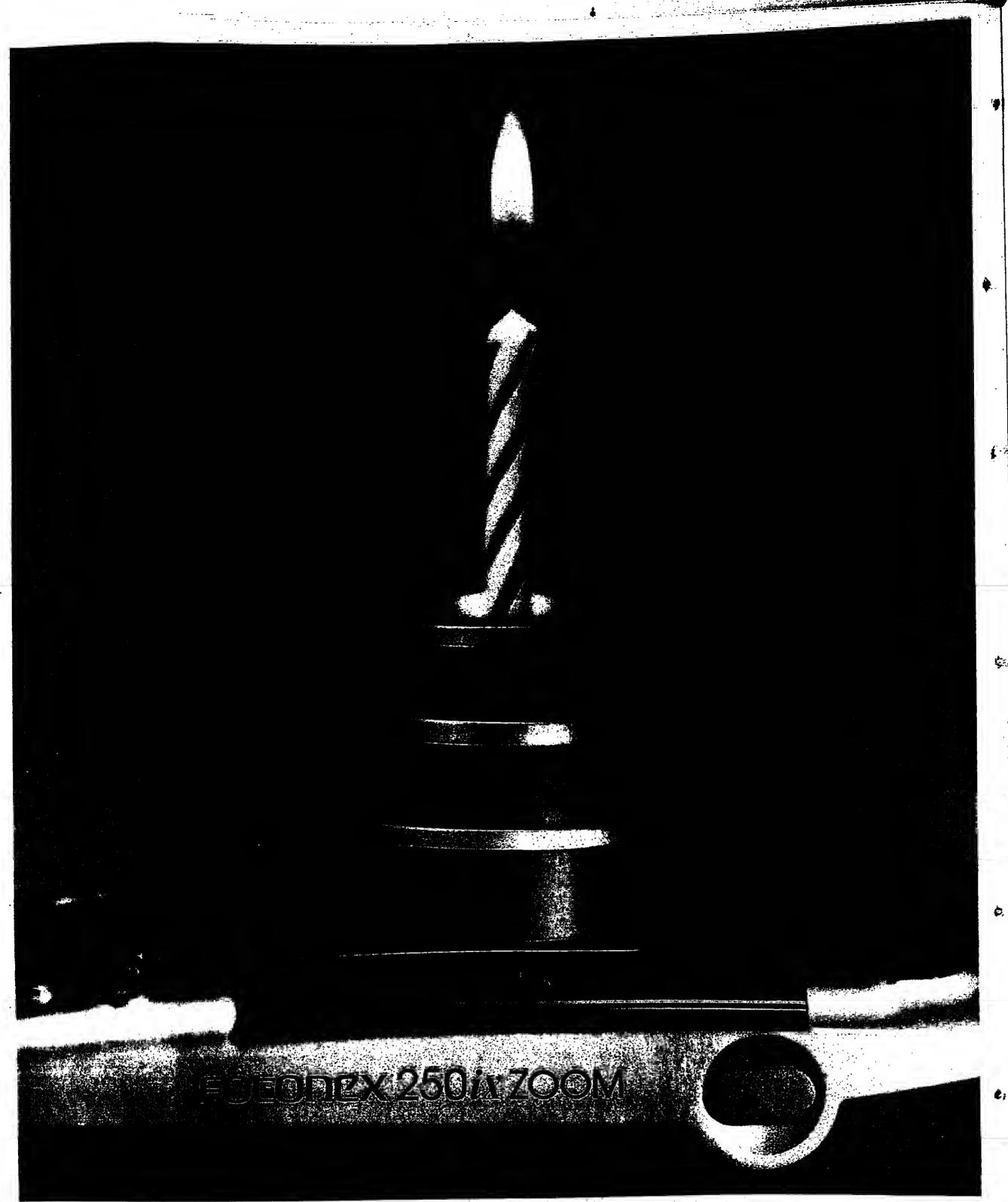
So, if you're looking for a candidate which stands out from the rest, visit your local Alliance & Leicester branch today.

We are sure you'll agree that our Platinum Plus account is worthy of your vote. For details of your nearest Alliance & Leicester branch, call 0800 412 214.



Terms and conditions: "Source: Blay's Guides, Correct as at 21 April 1997. Withdrawal terms and conditions very from account to account. All interest rate comparisons are based on the inclusion of any bonuses and are for the best Terms and conditions: "Source: Bay's Guides, Correct & at 21 April 1997. Wildrawal terms and conditions very from account to account an account are based on the inclusion of any bonuses and are for the best paying branch based UK high street notice accounts from the providers referred to. Interest rates for basences of £100,000. Interest rates quoted and gross, For the Platinum Plus accounts from the providers referred to. Interest rates of £100,000. Interest rates quoted are variable and gross, For the Platinum Plus accounts withdrawal, and the amount withdrawal. Minimum opening balance £2,500. Interest paid annually or monthly on request. Different interest rates apply to monthly on re 3263713. Registered in England. Authorised as a bank pursuant to the Banking Act 1987. Member of the British Bankers Association.

and the second second the second seco

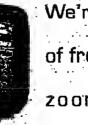


# To celebrate our birthday, we're offering free film for a year.

The first birthday of the revolutionary Advanced Photo System could hardly go unnoticed. Leading the celebrations, and the market, are Fujifilm Fotonex cameras.

With the choice of three picture sizes per shot, simple 'drop in' film loading and an index print for

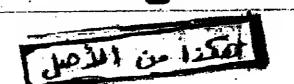
> easy viewing and re-ordering, you couldn't ask for more, until now.



We're giving away £50 worth of free film with every Fotonex zoom camera. That's one

feature you'd be mad not to snap up. For more details call 0800 106 022.





reform

# election's

# They think that it's not all over

Colin Brown Steve Boggan and Anthony Bevins

John Major yesterday used The Independent's survey of Tory constituencies to repudiate the polls, while senior Labour sources accepted their lead was not as great as the polisters had

their campaign agenda, claim-ing high poll ratings on the emo-tive subject, but it was The Independent's survey of constituencies that concentrated minds on the uncertain state of

Mr Major told sixth-form pupils at Leeds Grammar School that the opinion polls were nonsensical. Challenged to

far behind Labour, Mr Major said: "Yep, I do." He said: "The Independent in-

terestingly enough actually chose to go out to the marginal seats, knock on a few doors and talk to people itself rather than just rely on opinion polls. "Everyone will find out on

May 1, but 1 can tell you I've fought quite a few elections now and what is happening on the

The polls are pubbish. Four

days before the last election all the polls showed me behind by 7 to 10 per cent. I actually won Senior Labour sources said

doorstep is not reflected in the

last night that The Independent findings did not unduly concern them, as their own polling sug-gested a lead of more than 10 points, but less than 20".

tion and we have never said that our lead was anything like the 20 or 25 per cent that some of the pollsters have been saying,"

he said. Labour's own research suggests that support is holding up

well in key marginals. However, the research also shows that the party's commita single currency was not getting through. "The trouble about Europe is that, until now, people have only followed it as a matter of Tory division," said one leadership aide.

"Our hope is that people will take more notice during the last week of the campaign and our message will get across.
"One area where we have been pleasantly surprised is in the support we appear to be get-

ting from older people.

do more work on getting young people to vote.

"At the moment, they switch on their television - especially the BBC - and they just see politicians slagging each other off and that promotes the feeling that all politicians are as bad as each other."

One Conservative campaign manager said earlier that Europe was providing the party

the voters, which explained why the Prime Minister was so willing to divert from a press conference on grammar schools to talk about Europe

Mr Major told his main election press conference: "I think the booest heart of the Conservative Party beats in tune with the heart of the British

# Both party leaders are now say whether he believed gen-placing Europe at the head of unrely that the Tories could Major pledges to halt EU reform

Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

John Major last night clashed with Jacques Santer, the President of the European Commission and committed the Tories to putting a brake on moves to a federal Europe at the Amsterdam summit.

In strongly Euro-sceptics tones, the Prime Minister coupled his criticism of Mr Santer with a sustained and personal assault on the credibility of Tony Blair's claims to be trusted by the electorate.

Mr Major hurriedly redrafted a speech to a rally in York to highlight his rejection of Mr Santer's earlier remarks that institutional reform with more majority voting was a way of getting out of the trap of a vicious circle of paralysis,
"I disagree. Unlike the Labour leader,

I will veto if it is right for Britain. I will keep my feet on the brakes. Mr Blair would go to Amsterdam and put his foot on the accelerator to a federal Europe

Earlier, Mr Major told a BBC Radio phone-in programme that Mr Santer's remarks "absolutely reinforced the fears" Mr Major had raised a few days ago at a press conference on the Amsterdam summit

integration in Europe, with more of the decisions taken in Westminster to be taken in Brussels ... I don't want to integrate any fur-

ı year.

JIFILM

Senior Codservering source they were "not displayed and ter's remarks, despite being toned down. because they played into the Tory election strategy of raising Europe as a weapon with which to beat Labour.

Before the last minute changes, it was clear that Mr Major had intended to use his York speech for the most general assault so far oo Tony Blair's leadership. He riciculed Mr Blair on Europe but considerably widened his attack to Mr Blair's past record on CND, the sale of council houses, tax cuts, grant-maintained schools, pensions, wider share-ownership and tougher

"If Mr Blair has been so wrong in the past, people can not trust him now to protect our interests in the future.

He could have chosen Margaret Thatcher. He chose old Labour, can there ever have been a more stunning misjudgment in the history of politics?"

Mr Major said that Mr Blair had accused him of making a fetish out of being isolated in Europe. "It is not isolation, Mr Blair. It is called British oational interest. I would rather make a fetish out of protecting that than, like you, surrendering,"

said Mr Major. He added: "It is high time Mr Blair apologised to the British people for standing in the way of everything that has made Britain the better place it is today. It is time for Mr Blair to say sorry for getting it wrong time

The Prime Minister's attack was echoed by Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, who said: "The Brussels vision of Europe ems disturbingly similar to that of the Labour Party: an end to the veto; a job-deshoving employment chapter; and more powers to the EU Parliament - all part of Commission's vision and all Labour Par-



"I do not believe there is an appetite for Soapbox oratory: Tony Blair talking to crowds in Chester yesterday (Photograph: David Rose). Below: John Major with Leeds Grammar School pupils Photograph: Tom Pilston

# Santer scorns the

Brussels 1.

Jacques Santer, the European Commission president, yesterday stepped into the British election campaign by launching a strong counter-attack against Eurosceptics who he scorned as "prophets of

Euro-sceptic voices were attempting to "demean" Europe's considerable successes, he said, and were intent on "scoring eheap points by caricaturing our legislation and our institutions, he said.

Mr. Santer, speaking in the Netherlands, attempted to veil his attack by criticising Euro-sceptics "everywhere" in the union, in the full knowledge that to intervene directly in the British debate would be viewed by all parties as unacceptable interference in national affairs.

However, Mr Santer, and other European leaders, have clearly been taken aback by the virulence of Britain's anti-European fever, and the timing of Mr Santer's broadside is not a coincidence. There are deep fears among Britain'a partners that whichever party wins on 1 May, it will find itself shackled to an anti-European agenda for the foresceable future.

Britain's partners are particularly afrails, that if British anti-Europeamsm is whipped up any further, far-reaching plans for EU reform, to be signed at Amsterdam in June, could be scuppered by a British veto.

To block the new treaty would be "cat-astrophic", warned Mr Santer, because it would end the prospect of enlarging the

EU to the east, Greater majority voting and integration must be agreed at Amsterdam if the EU is not to move into

'gridlock". "Those who criticise, do they know what they are talking about? Do they have an equally stimulating alternative? If so what is it?" asked the Commission president. The EU was not devised by "hostile" or "alien" forces hut by member govern-

ments, he said Mr Santer mageted "doom merchants" who present monetary union as a threat to national sovereignty.

Tomorrow the European Commission will publish a report showing that the new: curo-zone will be the biggest trading block in the world - bigger than both the dollar and the yen.

The report will highlight more clearly than ever the potential danger to British economic interests if the country stays out of monetary union. Britain is likely to find itself isolated on the world economic

stage, the report suggests.
"Let me ask how much sovereignty will be left in a highly integrated world economy with fluctuating exchange rates?

"Rather than being confused by erratic speculation and uncertainty, citizens should be informed about the changes to come, fold for them, as consumers, savers, workers or tourists.

"I has convinced that the euro will be there from 1999 onwards. Economic and monetary union will not be delayed." Mr Enro, page 14



# **Patriotic** Blair sets out global vision

Steve Boggan

Tony Blair presented his credentials as a leader in Europe and the rest of the world esterday during a keynote speech heaviladen with patriotism and references to

Britain's past greatness. He cootrasted his firm leadership of the Labour Party with John Major's inability to influence events in Europe. Declaring him-self the enemy of isolationism, Mr Blair committed Labour to leading the European Union from within and to expanding it eastwards in a spirit of co-operation - "not as some giant and ceotralised European

superstate run from the centre" Being inside and leading the EU was the only way forward for Britain, he said. However, that did not mean selling out Britain's interests, "I am a British patriot and I am proud to be a British patriot. I love my country. I will always put the interests of my country first. The Britain in my vision is oot Britain turning its back oo the world, narrow, shy, uncertain. It is a Britain confident of its place in the world, sure of itself, able to oegotiate with the

world and provide leadership in the world."
He added: "Century upon century it has been the destiny of Britain to lead other nations. That should not be a destiny that is part of our history. It should be part of our future."

On Europe, he said a Labour government gressing too quickly. And he said he would enter the international government conference in Amsterdam in June with five key priorities for the development of the EU. To remove the remaining trade barriers of the single market.

To promote enlargement to the East and to ensure integration of Cyprus and former Eastern bloc countries.

■ To reform the common agricultural policy. To tackle unemployment and promote flexible labour markets in Europe.

■ To promote a more co-ordinated European foreign policy.

Mr Blair's audience at the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester was supposed to contain diplomats and ambassadors from more than 70 countries, but it was depleted by the disruption caused by yesterday's IRA bomb threats. Those who attended heard the Labour leader pledge to beef up Britain's defences, reform the United Nations secretariat, lead within Nato, increase overseas

aid and encourage trade around the world. "The British people want to count for something in the world. They would be deeply frustrated if they thought the decline in the UK's international stature would inevitably mean a smaller part on the world stage. A reduced life of this kind has been the lot of many peoples living in countries that were once great. But it should oot he ours. What is really at stake for Britain is the outlook for future generations," he said.

A number of foreign journalists felt that the speech smacked of imperialism and did not reflect the view of Britain seen from abroad. Most foreign diplomats were herded into a private function after the event and sent word via Labour press officers that they were not in a position to express an opinion on Mr Blair's view of Britain as world leader. However, Mooen Naim, acting High Commissioner at the Pakistani embassy, said his vision was encouraging.

# THE HURRIED VOTER'S GUIDE

# THE CAMPAIGN

Education and Europe were the themes of the day, along with the leadership qualities of the Prime Minister. The Tories plans to create a grammar

achool in every town were the subject of their school in every town were the subject of their merring press conference, with the Prime Minister promising that parents would decide which schools could be selective. Tony Bleir, meanwhile, was making a speech in Marchester in which he criticised

John Major's leadership, particularly over Europe, and claimed that the Conservative were too divided to govern properly.

Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, highest to keep the issue of Europe in the news by detending the rights of Tory backbarchers to express their personal views on Europe and to take money for doing so, as more than 206 have done from by abuse and so these money and so the secretary.

so, as more than 200 have done from businessman Paul Sykes.

Por Labour, the deputy leader, John Prescott, was claiming that his perty would need 10 years in office to complete its programme for change.

The Liberal Demograms focused on health at their morning press conference, saying the Nellongi Health Shirtope was a lottery and warning that the silippan "It could be you" warning that the silippan "It could be you" took at lattice saw meaning when it meant look at lattice that the more favourably on the country one had done.

### KEY ARGUMENTS

Under pressure over Conservative splits on Europe, John Major hit back. "We are conducting our dispute in an honest way. I may find that trustrating-But we aren't sweeping it under the carpet and hiding it in the Stalinist tashion as are the Labour Party, who have precisely the same divisions in their party.

"We are facing it honestly – painfully perhaps – but honestly," he said. Tony Blair criticleed Mr Major's leadership, or what the Labour leader said was the lack of it, along with what he called a "fetish of isolation" over "A narrow, crabbed nationalism, the

old force of the right, is reborn in the Conservative Party, it is a natural reaction to insecurity and fear in a changed world, but it leads nowhere, Paddy Ashdown turned his

attentions from health and the failings of the two other parties to the mayhem wreaked by the IRA in London and other parts of the country.
"The IRA tactics are clear. They are using the election for publicity, trying to cripple people's lives as they go about their normal business. This is economic terrorism, but it will prove tutile," the Liberal Democrat leader



evolutie to win a Tory edership contest. Hague has come a long way from addressing the Tory party conference as a teenager in 1977.

Though he may be the bookes. tavourtie, at 36 he is unlikely to become leader this time around. He has only been in Parliament since 1989, but is still ranked as favourite alongside Michael Portilio and Michael Howard.



nobody's friend yesterday when he waded into the scrap with the Tory sceptics, to find neither Major nor Blair wanted him on their team. Unnamed "doom... merchanis" wanted to take the EU backwards, he said. John Major said his speech was evidence of federalist ambitions, whilst Labour shiffed "He was John Major's personal choice for President of the Commission and it is for them to resolve the fact that theynow appear to have fallen out."

### THE FIRST CONTRACTOR ONE TO REMEMBER

Gordon Brown promised more surprises from new Labour when he was quizzed at yesterday's press conference over the decision to use the colour

purple as a background to their logos.
The shadow Chancellor said that Labour's new emphasis on purple reflected the party's "passion" for campaigning, adding: "Be prepared for a few surprises over the next few days."



Prominent Tory Euro-sceptic John Redwood attacked Jacques Santer. President of the European Commission, saying: "I wouldn't presume to advise John Major, and I myself would not presume to advise Mr Santer to mind his own business because our business in some respects is Mr Santer's business now, given that we are members of the EC."

### THE OTHER PARTIES

Alex Salmond, leader of the Sonttich Nationalists, said his party had never been stronger and was set to break the 30 per cent barrier in the polls. Launching a new party document "The Scotland We Seek", Mr Salmond said "independence is the only means to secure

Following another day of transport chaos, senior Sinn Fein officials said the disruption underlined the need for all parties to begin peace talks. Senior spokesman Mitchel McLaughlin said violence from all sources is continuing and the only way to change that is for

### MEDIA STAR



a better future for Scotland".

Last right's Labour election broadcast described life under the Tories if they were elected for another five year term. With "Land and Hope and Glory" throughout, the broadcast interspersed shots of chearing, flag-waving Conservatives -including shots of senior Cabinet members filmed at varying speeds - at a party conference, with images of empty hospital wards, shoppers putting food back on to supermarket shelves because they could not afford it and an ge of the Union Flag dropping to half mast. All in all, very

Barbara Follett: Dubbed a champagne socialist, even though she does not drink

money - or having Keo's mon-ey - doesn't define me, it just gives me more time. I'm lucky."

ter two previous attempts to get

a seat, she spent the past two

years campaigning for Steve-nage, Labour's 37th target seat,

stituency, she faced accusa-tions that it was simply a

When the Folletts bought a cottage in her prospective con-

springboard to a parliamentary career. She admits: "It's not the A swing of only 2.66 per cent will return Stevenage to Labour for the first time since Shirley most obvious place for me to be. People see me as a rich bitch in a poor town ... they've got this ridiculous image." But she says Williams was defeated in 1979. "We've doce about 88 per cent she and Stevenage have much in commnn, oot least because of the (66,000) constituency We'd done 20,000 by last night." it is populated by those whn un-Her daughters say she ap-proaches politics like she ap-proached clearing out their derstand what it is to be an outsider. "I'm not doing this for me, but for my children, grandchildren and because at heart I'm rooms. She starts at 6am, reels a reformer," she says, "Having off voters' concerns in statisti-

cal order of priority - "jobs, education, housing, health .. jokes about her "inefficient" doorstepping and plans her schedules oo daily and weekly

This is a place that has suf-fered dreadfully under the Thries in the last 18 years. It has suffered job losses equivalent to five pit closures," she says.
"People here believed that they would have houses for their children, and jobs, and they feel very betrayed." She wears a union badge giveo to her by one

builders - "some of the best men I've ever met".

Locally, at least, Ms Follett's approach appears to be paying off. In last week's poll she was 27 per cent ahead. Now even the traditionally Conservative Old Town turns up supporters. Karen Leverington, a mother of two, decided Ms Follett "had her finger on the pulse" when she saw her peti-tioning for their rail services. Stevenage, she said, wanted someone who really "stuck up"

of the oew town's nriginal for the town-"and she would." This is where Ms Follett's hlanket canvassing makes sense: those who have met her generally support her; those who haven't still deride her. Either way, oo one can say she hasn't tried. One is left with the feeling that her campaign team, by guarding her, are actually do-ing her a disservice - something reiterated by Mrs Leverington. "You know, if more peo-ple nnly spoke to her then they'd know what she's really like."

# New EC ban on beef products is blow for Major

and Fran Abrams

The European Commission is to tighten the blockade against British beef by reimposing a ban

on gelatine. The move, expected to be tabled at a Commission meeting tomorrow, will embarrass John Major, who hailed the lifting of the ban almost a year ago

as a "victory".

To date, the only success for the Government in its efforts to lift the ban has been the easing of restrictions on the export of beef products, gelatine and somen. Gelatine is used in a wide range of food products and in

many cosmetics.

Now even this small success looks likely to be reversed with the reimposition of the gelatine ban. However, several member states, led by Germany, were opposed to any easing of the ban. Emma Bonino, the Consumer Affairs Commissioner, now firmly believes there is cause to fear that gelatine could be coo-taminated with bovine spongi-form encephalopathy (BSE). Franz Fischler, the Agricul-

tire Commissioner, is expected to support the move when he European Union.

British beef and beef products was imposed in March last year. provoking Mr Major's fury.
The Prime Minister rejected

his partners' claims that the non-co-operation."

lifting of the ban, the ploy angered other European leaders, souring relations nn several fronts and undermining Britain's position in the crucial talks on European reform, which will rewrite the Maastricht Treaty. . At key stages of the cam

paign, Britain found the Cnm-

sures to eradicate BSE in cattle and to ensure that products such as gelatine are protected. Action has already been tak-

The worldwide ban on

widespread presence of BSE m British beef meant a han was necessary to protect public health, proposing instead to fight the ban with a policy of However, far from securing a

mission to be an ally. At first it supported the lifting of the latine and semen ban, hased on the evidence then available. Now Brussels is taking a tougher line. Officials are disappointed by the Government's failure to take adequate mea-

porters using infected British beef, and Commission officials say consumers on the Continent can rest assured that no infected British gelatine is circulating.

However, the Commission is expected to propose that only a political decision to reimpose the blanket ban will be totally failsafe.

The beef ban has cost every household in Britain £160 - the equivalent of two pence oo income tax - Labour claimed yesterday. In an attack on the Government's handling of the crisis, the party said it had cost at least £520m in exports. Consumption of beef at home had dropped by 363,000 tnnnes between 1995 and 1996 and 28,500 jobs had been threatened.

Labour's food, agriculture and rural affairs spokesman, Gavin Strang, said he had still tle with BSE had been buried

in the early years of the crisis.

The Government had decided oot to send the agriculture minister. Douglas Hogg to a Council of Agriculture Ministers meeting in Brussels yesterday. Instead, it had sent Lord Lindsay, a Scottish junior agriculture minister.

### **MEDIA WATCH**

# Ministers loom large in Labour's fright night

Media Correspondent

Last night's Labour election broadcast proved it's not just the Tories who know how to get down and dirty in a negative

Most of the broadcast was composed of an image guaran-teed to frighten votess; they cab-

As the strains of Elgar's Land of Hope and Glory" long the Conservatives' conference closing standard - built to a climax we saw ministers looking pleased with themselves, and not just any ministers. For the first time in the election, all the child-frightening ministers made it on to prime-time tele-vision: the Michaels: Howard,

Forsyth and Portillo. "Just imagine what the Tories would do with another five years," a voice warned.

The broadcast then went on their chance of getting into a de-to press a series of negative hot cent school. The we had an imitrons' that would have made the Republican election guru Lee Atwater proud.

First we saw grainy images of hospitals beds in corridors as ouscreen text told of 50,000 fewer muses. As "Land of Hope and Glory" continued to huild, the camera cut to worned looking old people, the on-screen message said old people's homes would be sold by the Tories, but the implication was very much that they really would sell your granny. It cut back to grinning ministers just to underline the point.

Surveillance camera footage nf drug dealing and bag snatching were used to make the Tories' record on crime scary.

And children were used to contrast with the horrid, gloating Tories. Sweet-faced schoolchildren looked worried about

PACKARD

age that made Fitz the bulldon look like subtlety: a little girl offering her mum a tin of beans only to have her mum put them back because the Tories have

"No one could be safe and nothing could stop them," said the screeo and we were shown a thief with face disguised smashing a car window with a hammer. Perhaps he was meant to be another cabinet minister.

By now, "Land of Hope and Glory" had built to such a fever pitch any confusion in the mind of viewers about its intended irony had probably been overtaken by an urge to hide behind the sofa. All it needed was Ann Widdecombe in a SS uniform. but unfortunately it weot out with a whimper: a sand castle carrying the Union Jack was toppled by a wave.



# The new HP LaserJet 6P. At 8 pages per minute, it's fast.

If there were a speed limit for printers, the new HP LaserJet 6P would be under arrest. It prints 8 pages per minute. Its first page is out in under 20 seconds.

And its infra-red (IR) port

predecessor, so 'print and

is 10 times faster than its

shoot' wireless printing is even quicker. The HP LaserJet 6P is also fitted with HP's advanced

technologies. Our new printer language, PCL6,

enables complex graphics to be processed and printed quickly. Resolution

Enhancement technology gives you the highest quality output. And paper handling is more versatile than ever, with a total input capacity of 350 sheets. And for a breathtaking performance, we suggest a diet of HP Supplies, our range of

transparencies film and toners. So, what are you waiting for? Go like a cat out of hell to your HP stockist today. For more details, call HP on 0990 474747.



HP PRINTERS. PAPER THAT WORKS FOR YOU.

عكذا من الأصل

sugges

Labour t

مكدا من الأصل

the limit

The constitution of the co

Darlin Hich

The state of the s

A comment of the military

Prince of the State of the State of

and the state of the law to

to the state of the state of

the state

 $\psi = \psi(0) = \psi(0) \frac{\partial \psi_0}{\partial x_0}$ 

The state of the s

Section 1. Com

Sec. 34

ul

30.

Company

1 17

and the second

The state of

# Tories fear poll defeat will ignite vicious power battle

Political Editor

Senior Conservatives are concerned that the party could become embroiled in an ugly and damaging battle for the party leadership if John Major goes down to defeat in next week's election.

While a number of Cabinet ministers are already position-ing themselves for leadership battle after the election, some party grandees are considering how best to avert the anarchy that would follow if Mr Major decided to stand down in the immediate aftermath of a Labour win.

Some of the Prime Minister's friends would advise him to do just that - leave his own party in the lurch, let them fight it out, and, possibly, destroy the parand, possibly, destroy the par-ty's chances of returning to But the very idea that he might be helping Mr Redwood

office for another decade. Oth- could be enough to keep Mr Committee. The chairman of ers are putting the future of the party before their loyalty to Mr Major, and are considering an appeal to urge him to stay on for as long as possible in a move to give the party time to settle down and make a mature judge-

ment about its long-term future.

A number of senior Conservatives would prefer Mr Major to stay on as leader until the autumn. This would give the new intake of inexperienced MPs time to measure the quality of the contenders for the succession and to reflect on the mistakes that had been made

during the campaign.
Some Tory moderates suspect that John Redwood's supporters would prefer an early contest, in order to "bounce" him into the succession.

Major from a precipitate res-

Yesterday's London Evening Standard reported that a "Save John Major" group of ministers, including Gillian Shephard, the Secretary of State for Education, and two Northern Ireland Office Ministers, Sir Patrick Mayhew and Michael Ancram, were considering an appeal to get Mr Major to steer the party into calmer waters.

Naturally, Tory officials were quick to dismiss that notion be-cause it smacked of defeatism at a time when party managers were arguing that the party was making something of a

mid-campaign comeback.

There were suggestions at the weekend that attempts were also being made to prevent a right-wing "coup" on the executive of the backbench 1922 the 1922 committee executive is Independent this week that if a key figure in the timing and that happened, a lot of conmanagement of Conservative spirators could expect to get their come-uppance and be out leadership elections. If so disposed, be could help fend off a of the Government without challenge until the autumn.

much ceremony. Speculation has been so rife There is undoubtedly a lot of about plots that Mr Redwood anger in the Major camp about spoke out at the weekend, denythe disloyalty that has been shown during the campaign and by the trouble that has been ing he was already preparing for a swift post-election strike.

While no minister would be caused by senior figures such as Kenneth Clarke and Michael foolish enough to set up a formal campaign and risk getting caught red-handed - close con-Howard, who bave this week

been in open conflict.

Mr Major has repeatedly refused to confirm that any of his ministers will retain their Cabinct scats after the election. If he is elected, a general purge is possible, under cover of giving younger people a chance of high office and preparing a new generation for party leadership in



# by Aanonymous

arky sat next to Mrs Candidate for the speech, clapping his small hands from time to time when he thought it appropriate, or when he felt the piranhas were watching. He also felt it would be impolite of him, sitting next to this pleasant, chocolate-clad woman, not to salute what her husband was saying; although, to tell the truth, he didn't

feel very much like applauding at all. Irony had always been one of Sarky's strong suits, his smallest glance freighted with tons of the stuff; hence his nickname. Big Al had coined it after watching the video of Snow White with one of his children

- this vision of little bearded men had put him in mind of the party's compact and hirsute foreign affairs chief, and the man's reputation for barbed wit and impatient intelligence had suggested the name. The Prodigies at headquarters (many of them victims of the famous scorn) had taken to it, and everyone now knew him as Sarky. Everyone but himself.

He was certainly intelligent enough to appreciate irony when he was its victim; as he was right now. For the speech that the candidate was delivering to the vast sound-deadening modern auditorium this morning (only in an election campaign could you fill half a concert hall with foreign diplomats and television

crews at 10 in the morning) the speech that he was now politely nodding along to was an implied reproach to almost everything he had ever thought about international affairs. Or, indeed, about leadership.

Key lines punctuating the speech hit him at regular intervals, like slaps across the back of the head. "We believe in strong defence ... our armed forces are the most admired in Europe ... defence will be built on our national nuclear deterrent ... And "I am a British patriot, I put my

Surbiton Man needed reassurance, and he was getting it. But, thought Sarky, there was surely a difference between telling readers of the Daily Mail that the country was safe in your hands, and this almost bravura donning of the gaudy armour of the defunct Iron Lady. There was something vaguely masochistic, disturbingly sexual, about this conversion. The candidate was getting pleasure out of it; pleasure that was eluding Sarky. Masochism, even his worst enemies agreed, was not one of his faults.

This odd tone might have something to do, Sarky mused, with the candidate's

disdain for the Grey Man's weakness was real enough. Sarky had sat next to him during Commons Question Time and had felt his neighbour's body go rigid with contempt. "I don't hate him,"
the candidate had once said, "I just can't stand watching him

squirm. He was given this high uffice - this immense responsibility - and he fritters it away. Frankly - and I know it's uncharitable 10 say it - he disgusts me." Even the hilarious campaign adventures of the Bohemian novelist were taken by the candidate's team as being indicative of a lack of Tory moral fibre. There was nn

"self-control". Sarky was not so sure. Was not the Grey Man's true problem that he led a party genuinely divided in two about its own future? Could it really be the case that this bistoric fissure was purely the product of personal weakness, of one man's

wimpishness? He thought not. This concentration on leadership led him back to the key unanswered question. Was the candidate a savinur or a

monster? Did he honestly believe (as this speech **6** Key lines suggested) that he had punctuating the speech hit him at support of his children? "I said I would mansform the regular intervals party and I have." What like slaps

of the head  $\mathfrak{I}$ 

about those years when the Welshman had toiled away, facing down the Trots, across the back squaring the barons and losing elections? "Every objective I set in creating a new party, I have achieved." What, alone? A hiblical prophet come to

judgement? Was this simply a piece of necessary election hyperbole, designed to coourast the unknown record of the candidate with the all-too-familiar one of the Grey be and the ret

believe it all? Sarky was no saint. He desired power as much as anyone else, and thought that he deserved to exercise a nice hig chunk of it. He was not Ego's enemy. But be did not imagine that serving in the Iron Lady's cabinet had been much fun; and even now be had no idea what to expect. Was the boss committed to open government. consultation, co-operation and radical policies? Would be quickly despatch Friend Bobby to a ministerial nunnery? Or was he a charming and dangerous megalomaniac, who would reward his courtiers?

Sarky turned to Mrs Candidate and

smiled. "Interesting speech," he said.

# Union leader suggests Labour tried to gag him

Stephen Goodwin

The leader of one of Britain's biggest trade unions disclosed yesterday that he had come under pressure not to attend this week's Scottish TUC confer-

John Edmoods, general sec-retary of the GMB General union, did not name the source of the pressure but his clear inplication was that it came from the circle around Tony Blair.

The Labour leadership has tried to distance itself from the centenary gathering of Scottish trade unionists in Glasgow, learing that hardline demands on nationalisation and workers' rights would frighten the

**6** It was suggested to me that I might plead other engagements rather than come to Glasgow >

electorate and band the Conservatives a propaganda gift.
Mr Edmonds' performance was just the sort New Labour had hoped to be spared. Speaking in support uf a motion advocating full employment, a four-day week and collective ownership of industry, he was critical of Gordon Brown's de- a Labour government. Howevtermination to bold to public spending totals to the limits set by the present Government.
"The aspirations of the

British people cannot be met through the narrow economic limits set by the Tory chancellor," he said. While Mr Ed-monds welcomed the use of a windfall tax to invest in job creation, he went on: "I suspect pretty soon that a Labour govemment will also have to intervene directly to stimulate investment and require industries to train their staff."

More embarrassing for the Labour leadership than the views of a trade union leader described in the past as "a dinosaur" was Mr Edmonds' suggestion of an attempt to gag him.
"Some of us have not been

doing much public speaking during the last few weeks. It was suggested to me that I might plead some other engagements rather than come to Glasgow," he said. When questioned later. Mr Edmonds did not deny that the suggestion came from the Labour leadership, or from its advisers.

Labour when a call by the public service union Unison (Scot-land) for a national minimum wage of 50 per cent of median male earnings was manocuvred off the agenda.

The formula would have set a minimum of £4.42 an hour, well above any figure that Mr

Blair could approve.

Rodney Bickerstaffe, Unison's general secretary, said he was "disappointed" that the demand had been dropped from the agenda but it did not change the union's position, which would put its case to Labour's proposed Low Pay Commission.

nationalisation of the railways. And it overwhelmingly rejected a call for the repeal of all Conservative anti-trade union legislation. A motion from the RMT rail union had called for the "complete renationalisation of the whole railway industry" within the first term of er, after lengthy backroom wranging, the wording put to the conference simply called on a Labour government to "es-tablish a clear timetable for the return of railway companies to

public ownership".

The wording would allow Labour to concentrate on strengthening the existing regulatory framework without im-mediately committing vast sums of money to renationalisation. Existing passenger franchises full contractual term.



fidants of the leading con-tenders are making discreet

preparations for all the even-

contenders do not seem pre-

pared for is a Conservative vic-

tory, with Mr Major staying on

for another five years as prime

The one thing that some

could be allowed to run for their full contractual term.

Michael Portillo, Secretary of State for Defence, pauses during a visit to Bond Helicopters full contractual term.

Michael Portillo, Secretary of State for Defence, pauses during a visit to Bond Helicopters full contractual term.

### **AROUND THE REGIONS**

# Old feuds may give Labour a Norfolk seat

In 1812 Spencer Perceval was given an unenviable place in the history hooks when he gained the dubious honour of being the first British prime minister to be assassinated. The man who ensured Mr Perceval's immortality - in print at least - was Joho Bellingham, a merchant.

the British Prime Minister in the corridors of the House of Commons and shot him dead as he walked down for a com-

Due mainly to imprisonment in Russia, Bellingham had lost his fortune in Europe and had become furious after Perceval had refused to make good his losses.

Nearly two centuries and several generations later, the descendants of the two protagonists are in conflict again. The battle place and prize

stituency of North West Norfolk with Roger Percival, who despite the different spelling is Bellingham, a merchant.

Bellingham lav in wait for the flag of the Referendum Party and Henry Bellingham standing under the banner of the Conservative Party.

As it was in 1812, controversy is centred on the subject of Europe. But this time the roles are reversed with Roger Perceval the assassin lurking in the wings ready to strike at an increasingly nervous Henry

Bellingham. Until the emergence of the Referendum Party in North West Norfolk it seemed Bellingham was almost certain to retain his seat which he de-

for this conflict is the con- fends with a 11.864 note majority. Now a high profile Ref- have roused its support from erendum Party campaign, heavily backed by a King's Lynn businessman, has thrown open the contest.

North West Norfolk has be-come littered with Referendum Party-style notices as shop windows, electricity poles and tree trunks offer the constituents anything from freedom of destiny to a "last chance to remain

Former true-blue Conservatives have been able to defect to the Referendum Party safe in the belief they are not having to support, or more importantly abandon, a particular political wing.

litical political party seems to passions that encapsulate and incorporate a oot uncommon mix of right-wing xenophobia and nationalism.

It is this unspoken right-wing perspective that makes the Referendum Party the perfect alternative for loyal Conservatives who want to make a one off protest - for they are oot having to protest about their own beliefs but instead about the actions of their fellow believers. This means the Referendum Party's task is simply to preach to the converted and reassure them their beliefs are

There is, of course, a third In fact this supposedly apoleading figure who takes his

place on the hattlefield of North West Norfolk. This is the quiet figure, until recently, of Labour's Dr

George Turner and it is he who could gain the ultimate prize from the assassination of Mr Bellingham's election hopes. Labour needs a 9.5 per cent swing to win. The underlying right-wing nature of the Referendum Party helps to ensure traditional and potential Labour voters are kept in the fold so that the votes lost to the Referendum Party are in the main Conservative.

This ultimately means Mr Percival's assassination attempt on Mr Bellingham combined with the national swing to Tony Blair may unwittingly give Labour the seat. A result few in North West Norfolk would have truly anticipated?

Jonathon Hartley

of the Lynn News

# £100,000 OF LIFE INSURANCE FROM £9.82 A MONTH\* It only costs a little to

he very gled you did.

Civil Servants

• Town Hall Employees

Teachers

Lecturers

Post Office 5tqff

NHS Staff

LIFE INSURANCE 0800 147 147

leave them a lot

A Zorich Municipal Term Assurance Policy can provide

£100,000 for your family if you dir. And if you work in the

public sector, you get a) 15% discount which means you could pay a monthly premium of just 19.82°. It's easy, too

without call ran secure inimediate cover in a few minutes. Call ne now to find out move. One day, your family might

Open: 9am 8pm Mon Fri, 9am Ipm Sat PLEASE QUOTE REF: LIN2104

Nurses

Police

Fire Service

ZURICH Focusing on the Public Sector

Prison Officers

Combai

Sixty ye on, Guerr

still scar

Weapons

10 106

18 18 W 12

nin 🕞 . Si<u>wa</u>

Fran Abrams and Judith Judd

Parents would decide whether they wanted a grammar school in their town, ministers said yesterday - but only up to a point. The next Con-servative education secretary would decide whether or not local demand for selection was strong enough to justify it.

Announcing details of how the Prime Minister's plans for a grammar school in every town would work the current secretary of state, Gillian Shephard, made it clear that schools school to be a grammar. would have to make a case to her in order to go selective.

The Prime Minister said yesterday that the process by which a comShephard says schools would have to make case to her in order to go selective

prehensive could become a grammar would be similar to the process for opting out - that there would be a parental hallot. However, aides made it clear later that it would be up to the school's governors whether they wanted to hold a ballot or not. They could also decide whether or not to consult parents in feeder primary schools about whether or not they wanted their local secondary

Mrs Shephard would not speculate on what would happen if all the schools in an area applied to be se-lective, as comprehensives in Brom-

ley have done, but an official said later that she would be likely to choose schools an independence and freetwo or three rather than allowing all to go ahead.

Yesterday's announcement also included plans to give local authority comprehensives more control over their budgets, with councils being forced to hand over all the money apart from that needed to carry out statutory obligations such as planning and running welfare services. Under the reform, schools could own their own buildings and be the official employers of their own staff.

dom they had never had before. There would be no return to the eleven plus, he said, but there would be an increase in diversity.

Doctrinaire Lahour councils won't be able to stand in the way. We just want more good schools that are all aiming to offer the best, and we want more choice in education for parents and more variety for pupils,

Labour attacked the plans, saying oyers of their own staff. they would mean secondary moderns in every town and that they also high-

lighted splits in the cahinet. There had been plans to offer financial incentives to new grammar schools under the government's specialist schools programme, but these were dropped after an internal dispute.

David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman, said the proposals would mean many more children would be unable to go to the school of their choice.

"They would deny most parents the opportunity of good schools. Instead a small group of parents could decide to deny to other children the same choice and opportunities which

their own children have." he said. John Sutton, general secretary of the Secondary Heads Association, said the plans were profoundly un-democratic: "The parents of poten-tial future pupils and the parents of pupils at other schools will have no say in a matter which directly affects

their children's future. Margaret Tulloch of the Campaign for State Education, the parents' pressure group, said that support for grammar schools had been falling steadily. In 1957 a Labour party poll showed that only 10 per cent opposed selection and in 1967 76 per cent

were in favour of retaining grammar schools. By 1987 a MORI poll showed 62 per cent in favour and a Harris poll last year showed 54 per cent backed a return to full selection. Margaret Dewar chairman of the

Grammar Schools Association said: "I would like to see funding go to academic schools as well. I do think that they need some financial incentive."

Peter Miller, president of the Secondary Heads Association, asked how selecting the top 20 or 30 per cent would help under-achievement. "The turnoil over admissions will be made worse by any increase in se-lective schools. The Conservatives have ahrogated their responsibility to plan the system."

# Party leaders quizzed on race issue

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Paddy Ashdown has warned that French-style National Front racism could occur in Britain unless politicians provide a lead in opposing it.

The Liberal Democrat leader says in an election interview with ZEE TV, a satellite and cable channel that specialises in Asian affairs: "There are those in the Conservative Party, including some rather high-profile figures, who have talked about play-

ing the race and asylum card. It may deliver them votes but it could unleash the most unholy consequences. There is a role for politi-

cians to lead and set examples.
"If they duck out on this issue then they will find the issue devours them, instead of them being able to be the instrument that stops it."
But in a separate interview to be

hroadcast later this week, John Major goes out of his way to defend Nicholas Budgen, successor to Enoch Powell in Wolverhampton South-West, who has taken a leading role in opposing any further relaxation of immigration law.

Mr Major said that Mr Budgen's views had been misunderstood. "Like me he sees a place in the Coneni ethnic backgrounds," the Prime

Told that the Tories were not seen as "Asian friendly", Mr Major said:
"I am sorry if some Asians feel that, because it certainly isn't true. The Conservative Party is open to everyone whether they are Asian, British, Chinese or Caribbean. If they think like a Conservative and share the Conservative philosophy they will be welcome in the party. Asians make a huge contribution to the UK and I would like to see more Asian MPs."

He said: "The Asian culture and other cultures have sunk deep into the British way of life ... The old shib-boleths and fears that people raised have gone and people now work, cheek by jowl, with Asian neighbours."

But a survey to be published in London's Time Out magazine tomorrow suggests that hardly any hlack Londoners believe Mr Major is sincerely concerned about the issues affecting them.

The survey found that only 2.5 per cent of those who responded thought he was concerned, and one-quarter of the 18- to 35-year-olds believed that he may even be a racist. More than half of those in the Time Out survey were not registered to vote and of those who were, one in five said that

# servative Party for people of differ- they would not be voting on 1 May. Ashdown's martial art fails to dent Coe's hunk appeal

**Barrie Clement** 

The soldierly Paddy Ashdown has set female hearts affutter during the hustings - well at least those of a

Yesterday he failed to impress eight-year-old Lucy McMahon of Stithians Primary School, near Truro, Cornwall, Invited to contribute her political opinions to a class poster, GOVERNMENT - WHAT WE THINK", Ms McMahon ventured; You should only vote for rich or hunky men."

Asked whether Mr Ashdown fitted the bill, she smiled, declined to reply, but said Sebastian Coe did. The former athlete lives in the village and is the sitting Tory MP for the constituency.

Perhaps the most controversial comment, however, came from the whole of class three. "We think there should be more people like Rolf Harris," they said. One young classmate, called Morwenna, wrote: "I don't think children know what they are talking about, so should not vote." So, people who are 18 years old and over do?

An emerging right-winger called kirsten demanded that "people should stay in prison longer". She showed a degree of political ecleticism, however, by siding with the anti-hunt lobby. People who kill animals for fun should be put in

Later, Mr Ashdown showed admirable restraint when a ferret appeared behind him on a wall as he was interviewed on television. He said the creature was the most patient and docile he had set eyes on.

paign to elicit support from the younger generation got dirtier by the The Conservatives even offered children a ban on homework. In

Elsewhere in Cornwall, the cam-

another outrageous ploy, they promised that a reformed child benefits system under a Conservative government would cut out the mid-dle man, namely parents.

The "mock election" at Saltash Community School is not for the politically squeamish.

One Tory poster, put up in a school corridor, was craftily coloured Liberal Democrat yellow and proclaimed: "The Liberal philosophy you worked for it, now we will take it; a vote for the Liberal Democrats is a vote for higher taxes; the Liberals would roh you of your earnings
- why not rob them of your support?"

Conservative supporters, who mysteriously failed to appear during Mr Ashdown's visit to the school, whether through boycott or diktat of the head teacher, had so far refused to take the posters down.

Perhaps the school philosophy at Stithians Primary should be taken on board by politicians of all hues: "Be honest, own up and don't tell lies."



# Essex woman travels from Kowloon to the Valleys in search of votes

A cold wind knifing down the South Wales valley seemed to spur Margrit Williams, the Tory candidate with the highest mountain in Britain to climb,

to greater efforts.

She was out seeking elusive supporters in Tredegar, the heart of the Blaenau Gwent constituency, which in 1992 returned Labour's Llewellyn Smith with a majority of more than 30,000. "I hope you can support me on I May," shoppers were told hopefully as they headed down

Commercial Street. Commercial Street was, in name at least, an appropriate locale for Ms Williams to canvass. She was for some time an investment consultant hased in Hong Kong. Born in 1964 at Southend-on-Sea in Essex, she lived in Germany for a while, and then served as a councillor in the Tory flagship borough of Wandsworth, south-west London, hefore emharking on a journey that seems fated to end up as an Essex Woman Routed by Valleys Man" story in

the local paper, the Gwent Gazette

Candidate chases elusive support in Blaenau Gwent against a Labour majority of more than 30,000, reports Tony Heath

The area is saturated with reminders of radicalism. The Tredegar

Thatcher's doughty fighters.

Not every passer-by accepted the hlue-bordered leaflets promising to expose allegations of waste in the lo-

to which she used to contribute a cal authority where there is a solitory Tory councillor among the 42.

Workmen's Medical Aid Society, a service built with the pennies of miners and steelworkers, was the inspiration for the National Health Service, set up by Aneurin Bevan, the local MP from 1929 to 1960. Four huge stone pillars on a hillside commemorate the man and his works three represent the towns of Tredegar, Ebbw Vale and Rhymney and the

fourth and largest, Bevan himself. Ms Williams passes it frequently but is unlikely to pay it much heed. Her undoubted energy and commitment qualifies her as one of Baroness

"I used to vote Tory, but they've

Iona Pettic turned aside, commenting: "The Tories have done precious little for the Valleys since Thatcher got in. They've got no

chance here."
A retired education welfare officer, Arthur Morgan, spoke with the authority of his 79 years. "The Tory candidate will get between 2,000 and 3,000 votes," he forecast.

Brian Reardon, cousin of Tredegar sucoker star Ray Reardon, lost his joh in 1989 when Markham colliery, a few miles outside the town. was closed. His file of joh applica-tions is a couple of inches thick, but in seven years he's only worked for six months. "One post in a residen-tial home paid £2.60 an hour. You've got to have a degree to become a caretaker round here," be joked.

got such a weak leader in John Ma-Labour," Sharon Jenkins, a lively 33that I expect I'll switch to year-old trailing her son, Greg, 7, and daughter, Lawri, 5, towards Tesco's, said briskly. She offers other local figures

from another political culture as role-models, naming Sir Geoffrey Inkin, who made the kamikaze run in the 1979 election against Michael Foot now chairs two quangos, the Cardiff Bay Development Corporation and the Land Authority for Wales, net-ting nearly £70,000 a year. Then she paused, and added:

"And there's Jonathan Evans."
Jonathan Evans? He was born in Tredegar, became Tory MP for next door Brecon and Radnor in 1992 and is defending a majority

who took over as MP five years ago, when Michael Foot stood down, is understandably confident. He said: What makes me sad is the way problems created by Tory policies are destroying proud communities."

He collected 79 per cent of the vote in 1992 and interest today centres on how many votes Ms Williams can collect alongside the shares of the Double Democrats Geraldine Layton and Plaid Cwmru's Jim Criddle.

Ted Hickey has been a stalwart of the local Tory Party for more than 25 years. A Dunkirk veteran, Justice of the Peace and proud holder of the MBE, he summed up the prospects: "We are flying the flag. That's what

we're doing."

Tory standard-bearers come and go in the Valleys like migrant birds. Ms Williams is studiously non-commital about her future. Commercial Street again or Kowloon? "Let's wait until the election's over. You see, I'm fighting to win," she said.

HOW I WILL VOTE; SIR CLAUS MOSER

# Blair is a man I can totally believe in, like Gaitskell don Brown's pledge to stick to Conservative expenditure levels? last five years? Britain. Above all, we have an education being parochial and cation system, after all these years inst be truly European. I would also



Labour. What I have seen of the campaign so far has impressed me, though I didn't need further conwith very careful policies. He will obvincing that I passionately want a viously have to find some addition-Labour government, both because of al taxes, even if not income taxes, in the vision of Tony Blair and his col- order to hring off the promised edleagues, and also because I long for a competent government.

When we interviewed you in 1992, you were one of the few people who praised Mr Blair specifically.

Mr Blair himself is a man I feel I can public expenditure. I think that totally believe in, rather as I used to believe in Gaitskell. I think he has a marvellous team. It looks very good

ucation committments. But I think that can be bound within present that,

public expenditure figures. In these areas I hope to see conthere are possible savings in social services and defence, and that's what I'd be looking for the hrave changes in policy.

Are you at all uneasy about Gor- How have you viewed Conserva-

There's no doubt that education has become more of a priority, even for the current government; that's good news. I look to a Labour government to keep it as a top priority together with health. Mr Blair has promised

I want to end teacher-bashing, which has continued, even under the present Government, with regrettable backing from the inspectorate. This partly explains the appalling morale of the teaching profession.

When I was a boy in Berlin, my father said to me once: "If you're clever and able enough, you might get into schoolteaching". I long for the day when that can be said in

world; and for the hottom 20 to 30 millions of people there. per cent, totally unacceptable.

The single overriding priority for You said in 1992 that you were tak-Mr Blunkett and Mr Blair must be Ing the opinion polls with a very to improve the lot of under-achieving papils and schools. That would cost quite a hit of money, so that's I had great doubts about the polis last my big priority. Of course there are other priorities in my mind. Not least, I hope that Labour will give culture - as it should be callled - a deserved

Third is Europe: a government which is of one voice, moving us into Europe. I am a mid-European in ori- majority". I hope that it will be abgin, so I would say this. But I think solutely massive.

cation system, after all these years just be truly European. I would also which is for the top 10 to 20 per cent like us to take more care of the Third of children, perhaps the best in the World, with the appalling misery of

> ing the opinion polls with a very large pinch of salt. Are you doing the same this time?

> time. I don't any more. They are very, very sophisticated now. I haven't the slightest doubt that Labour will win. I think it will be quite a hig majori-

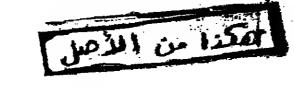
ty. Nor do I share the view of the sophisticated chattering class who say: "Oh, we hope it won't be too hig a

I long for a day when we don't have to think of Michael Howard, Mr Lilley, Mr Portillo, and Mr Redwood as our leaders. I just think they're not for our time.

There are some Conservatives who have more liberal and more sensible views; I greatly respect Kenneth Clark, Gillian Shepherd, and in some respects the Prime Minister, but some of these people I never want to see again. Unless they are in opposition - I think that will do them good.

You have no doubts about looking forward to 2 May? No, I'm longing for it. The bigger the

majority the better. Interview by Ben Summers.



" Vidailia

# Combative Netanyahu rides out the storm

صكدا من الأصل

Párick Cockburn Jeusalem

Bojamin Netanyahu, the Israli Prime Minister, shows evry sign of having ridden on the storm over his ap-parament of a chief prosecuto whn would go easy nn his frends and allies in their legal trubles. As Israel begins the Pasover holiday none of his calinet members or the parties

who belong to his coalition ent. Mr Netanyahn said: "I and Edna Arbel, the state at-

Mr Netanyahu counterattacked nn televisión as soon as attorney-general Elyakim Rubinstein announced on Sunday the Prime Minister would not be indicted. The Israeli leader repeated his favourite tactic of claiming a famous vic-tory and total justification of his actions, although what Mr Rubinstein said was rather differ-

didn't commit any crime and the attorney-general verified this." In fact Mr Rubinstein said: There were good grounds to spect an illegitimate motive [in the appointment], but not enough evidence for a criminal

In the wake of the report issued by the attorney-general

torney, ministers who had appeared to be on the edge of resignation began to announce that they would stick with the government. Even Dan Meridor, the Finance Minister, long a discontented member of the indictment." He also said: "The cabinet, is to remain at his post. He is to be a member of actions of the Prime Minister a new committee which is to vet senior appointments in future.

A poll after the attorney-gen-

eral's report by the daily Yediot Aharunot found that 58 per cent of Israelis did not think Mr Netanyahu should resign, although 40 per cent said he should. The effect of the affair appears to have been to deepen the divide within Israeli society. However 56 per cent believe that Tzahi Hanegbi, the Justice Minister, who was also not indicted, should resign while 38 per cent thought he should not.

The Prime Minister presented the attacks on him as purely motivated by political animosity. He said: "They cannot accept the fact that the people voted for us and not for them. They cannot accept the fact that we are huilding on Har Homa. They refuse to accept our vigorous objection to a Palestinian state. They refuse to he reconciled to the fact that we are guarding the Golan Heights."

cern vesterday that this rhetoric would lead Mr Netanyahu to be even more intransigent in negotiations with them.

Only one of those against whom the police had asked for indictments. Aryeh Deri, the leader of the religious Shas party, will be prosecuted, which is ading to allegations of discrimination by Israelis from North Africans, who are

Palestinians expressed con- the main supporters of Shas. Mr Netanyahu sounded com-bative as he claimed that the attomey-general had exonerated him, but the affair has been a further blow to his prestige. The new appointments commission may also make it difficult for him to put his own candidates in ton jobs. Five petitions to the Supreme eral's decision to be reversed and Mr Netanvahu to be indicted.

# Sixty years on, Guernica still scarred by Hitler's first blitz

Eczabeth Nash

Liaki de Arzanegi, still vigorous a 74, has a lively gaze and a ready smile. "It was a beautiful day, just like today," he recalls. Monday – market day – and the town was packed, because people came to Guernica from the villages all around."

Guernica's 6,000-strong population was swollen to some 10,000 on 26 April 1937, not just with villagers coming to market but with Basque troops and refugees retreating from Franco's approaching nationalist forces. There was uncertainty and fear in the air.

"Our teacher sent us home from school at midday, because he was worried something might happen," Inaki continues.

Then as we were having hunch, at about 2pm, the church beils started to ring, which was how we sounded the alarm. I ran into the hills with some life working in those factories, er saw the first planes arrive ping their bombs."

Heinkels and Junkers of Hitler's Condor legion flew up the valley for more than three lours that afternoon, dropping lombs on Guernica's crowded narket square and machine ginning its terrified citizens

The destruction prompted Picasso to produce his masterwork Guernica, which many consider this century's finest

"The pilots came in so low that I saw their faces, their goggles, everything. They opened fire and there was no answering fire; we had no antiair defence. I heard explosions, saw balloons of smoke. I was

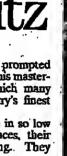
bombardment of civilians, and a trial run for the subsequent don, Warsaw and Dresden.

gic: Guernica's arms factories were spared and they still stand beside the railway line.

bell-ringing duty, hid in the spiral staircase of the church

they were called." He smiles at this irony of the primough any this irony of the atthough any rancour has stitled with the

Between 500 and 1,000 people died that afternoon; no one knows the exact number.



scared stiff," Inaki says. It was Europe's first aerial

destruction of Coventry, Lon-The targets were not strate-

Pablo Izaquirre, who was then a 10-year-old altar boy on

spire.
"I later spent 50 years of my

"My sister was a nurse at the military hospital and said they couldn't tell how many died," Pablo said. "They loaded the



bodies into carts and domped them in the cemetery. Many re-mained beneath the ruins."

Inaki's eyes fill at the mem-ory of what he saw when he scrambled down from the hills. "It was just rubble," he said. "Houses were burned by incendiary bombs and flames . leapt from house to house. We were left in the street with nothing but the earth beneath us and the sky above our heads. Three days later, Franco's

troops came in." Eduardo Vallejo, Mayor of Guernica, is convinced that his city was blitzed because of its importance to the Basques: "Guernica is almost sacred for us, the cradle of our ancient rights and liberties. We have held democratic assemblies beneath our oak tree for bundreds of years."

He says Franco wanted to punish the Basques for not supporting his revolt against the republic the previous July: "But he was ashamed of what he had done," he said, "and accused the retreating Basques of torching their own city. He died without ever admitting the truth."

Inaki adds a postscript. "One day in September 1937, I was playing in the rubble and a couple of buses came up carrying smart men in uniform - Germans. They were Condor pilots.

They asked us what we had seen that day and what had been where, and through an interpreter we told them. They seemed proud of their work. And I had to swallow this for 40

'Flames leapt from house to house and left us with nothing but earth beneath our feet', About 500-1,000 people were killed at Guernica

years for fear of imprisonment." In recent years, local histoevents, assembling survivors. -local archives. We found a lot memories and scant documen- of material in Madrid in Frantary evidence. "We were con- co's files on 'Destroyed Re-

being taught about the mounlains of Australia and the rivers of England but nothing about our own history," says Alberto Iturriarte, a teacher at Guernica's primary school.

There were no books about Guernica, and the bombardgions'. But we still don't know

whose Idea the bombardment was - the Nazis' or Franco's. Towards the end of Franco's dictatorship [in 1975], some Fran-coists said the act was imposed upon him by the Nazis. But there is no documentary evi-

dence either way. spared, a gnarled stump pro-tected in a little stone temple on a grassy knoll, though it is a

What to ask

for when you get a

quote for medical cover.

the spring air. Last year the German parliament offered DM3m (£1m) in order to build the town a sports centre, a good-will gesture that Mayor Vallejo appreciates, although he would have preferred a formal apology.

"They can't pay will for destroying our people," he and the 60th anniversary would nearby eucalyptus that scents be a good opportunity.

# US tussle over chemical weapons reaches climax

Mary Dejevsky Wishington

he of the Clinton adminisinion's most keenly fought plitical hattles may finally be nearing its end with the oening tomorrow of a longillayed Senate debate on lemical weapons

The Bill to ratify the interntional convention on chemiweapons, which would onlaw the use, production, trinsfer and stockpiling of poi-ser gas and other chemical wapons, was submitted for consideration more than four years ago. But it has had to surinpuni strong objections from ains control sceptics even to eme to debate.

If the necessary two-thirds majority for ratification is allieved at the vote on Thursdy, the United States will have is got in under the wire. The treaty has already been tified by more than 65 states ad comes into force next week th or without the US.

he US warplane that disap-

kared during a training exer-

use on 2 April seemed finally to

hwe been located yesterday, when a search aircraft spotted

adviction by space aliens and

the pilot's defection to an ille-

extremist militia group.

tary Dejevsky

If the vote goes against rati-fication, the US will find itself in the unlikely company of such countries as Iraq. Libya and Iran, which have refused to sign. This is an outcome de-

plored by President Bill Clinton, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, and defense secretary William Cohen, all of whom have spent weeks lobbying en-ergetically for ratification. But the outcome is by no

means certain. Although the convention has support from Democrats and Republicans and was signed by a Republican president. George Bush, five years ago in Geneva, there is a hard core of Republicans, led by influential foreign affairs committec, Jesse Helms, that has been adamantly opposed.

They say the treaty would not halt the development or use of chemical weapons, because key countries are not signatories. verified, and that US chemical manufacturers would be subject

Their principal objection, however, is the obligation on signatories to share information about how to protect themselves

from chemical weapons. They say this would jeopardise US national security. Interviewed on television at the weekend, Ms Albright defended ratification, saying.
Teople will wonder what is wrong with us" if the US fails to ratify a treaty that has "made

in the USA written all over it".

"Can you imagine," she asked,
"what it would be like for us to be on the same side as Libya and Iraq?" Supporters of the treaty argue that verification provisions are the tightest ever of any arms control treaty. They see the objections as deriving less from the framed, than from what they see as a visceral scepticism of arms

control itself in a section of the

Republican party.

Warplane wreckage found in Rockies

to "unconstitutional" searches ago, Mr Helms and his allies by international inspectors. were holding out for several dozen amendments which would have effectively emasculated the treaty. Now, after a charm offensive by Ms Albright, which included a visit to Mr Heims's home state of North Carolina, and another to Houston, Texas, where she ap-peared on a platform with George Bush. Mr Helms has

lifted some of his objections.

Mr Helms has also wrung a

Mr Clinton announced that two independent agencies -the arms control and disarmament agency and the US information agency (which has responsibility for the Voice of America radio station) - would be brought into the State Department. Mr Helms has urged such a reform to increase consional control of their activities and reduce bureaucracy.

Despite the last-minute horse-trading, there remain on the table five amendments. Each As recently as two weeks

According to some reports,

the bombs may have exploded

on impact. Seismic records stud-

ied by the air force, however,

showed no evidence of any ex-

plosions in the region around

the time the plane would have run out of fuel.

Even if the wreckage is that

Does it offer you..?

Full cover for eligible in-patient treatment

Full cover for all out-patient consultations and tests

No overali annual financial limits to claims

Prompt access to private treatment

Provision for alternative medicine

Immediate 25% no-claims discount. rising to a possible 50%

Prime Health A member of the Standard Life Group

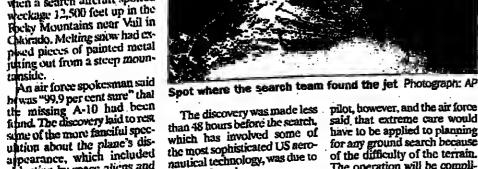
Discover Primecare.

Some healthcare plans cut back on cover to keep premiums low. But not Primecare. We believe no other scheme can offer Primecare's high level of cover at such competitive rates. So before you commit yourself to any other plan, make sure you find out what Primecare from Prime Health

Call now for a quote **0800 779955** 

-4	7 7 7 A	or return the coupon	below
		E BLOCK CAPITALS	MO4489NG
٠,	Title	First name	
	Surname		
\.\ 	Date of Birth	of eldest to be covered	
	Address		
** *		Postcode	
	Daytime Phon	e No: Suc STD code)	
× .	Evening Phon	9 No; five STD code)	
•	Cover require	dt	

Send to: Prime Health Limited, FREEPOST, (G12192), Guildford GU1 48R, http://www.primehealth.co.uk.



The discovery was made less the most sophisticated US aeronautical technology, was due to There was still no trace of the

pilot, however, and the air force said that extreme care would have to be applied to planning for any ground search because of the difficulty of the terrain. The operation will be complicated by the possibility that

of the missing A-10, there re-mains the mystery of why the pi-lot, Captain Craig Button, whose lifetime ambition had apparently been to become a fight-

er pilot, broke away from his training formation and flew the plane to the Rockies. The original theory, disputed by his parents and neighbours, was that be might have committed suicide



# Brussels claims French single currency will sideline UK

Plans to appoint a single political figure to represent countries inside the new "euro zone" nn stage are being privately can-vassed by member states.

The appointment of a "Mr Euro" figure could have farreaching implications for Britain should the next government decide not to join the single currency, officials in Brus-

Outside the eurn zone. Britain could drastically lose influence in key economic clubs such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and

could become drowned out by representatives of the new "big three" trading blocs: the euro, the dollar and the yen.

Furthermore, Britaio's right the international economic to have a seat in such powerful international groups as the G7 could even he called inm question if it does not join the single currency, say sources close to the discussions. The G7 may have to be reconvened as a new "Group of Three".

The question of how the euro zone countries will promote their individual economic interests with a single voice after the launch of monetary union will be raised tomorrow, when the European Commis-sion publishes a long awaited report on the euro's role on the world stage.

The report, passed yesterday to *The Independent*, sets nut in detail how the new European currency is set to rival the US dollar as the most powerful

economic entity in the world.

The Commission paints a rosy picture of a powerful, suc-cessful and stable euro dominating world trade in the next

dustrial nations. Britain's voice consequences for member states which do not particoate and for third countries." In view of the massive world-

wide influence of the sagle currency, the bloc will hae to adapt its procedures in over to speak "with a common portion in international discussins". The report sidesteps any drect reference to the appointment of a single figure to sit at bese world meetings.

Such a move is still viewed as sensitive as it would set the European Union further downthe road towards federal style ule. However, nfficials in Brusels confirm that debate is undervay about how the euro's "common position" could be presented. One option might be to appoint a single, weighty political figre.

Another might be to appoint he chairman of the Europear fi-

nance ministers' council.

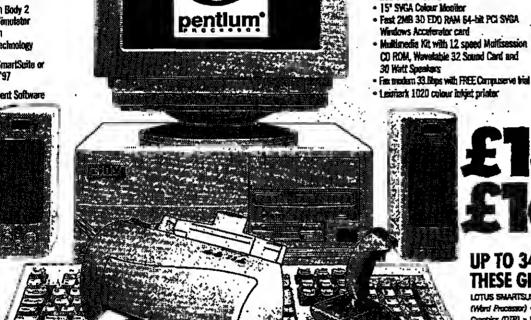
The political figure, would always be accompanied by he chairman of the new European Central Bank.

in terms of world trade, he report says the euro will account for 20.9 per cent of all dealings. compared with 19.6 per centior the dollar and 10.5 per cent for The report's warning to those the yen. One third of worldexcountries which do not join is ports will be paid for in curos clear. The introduction of the after the launch of the single new money will have major currency, says the report.

# NOTHING TO PAY UNTIL JANUARY 1998. NOT EVEN A DEPOSIT ACCELERATOR P166M PRINTER SYSTEM **TUTOR P166M SYSTEM**

- . Intel 166Mhz Pentium Processor with MMX\*\* technology
- High Performance Intel 82430
- **VX Chipset Motherboard** 16MB Fast EDO RAM
- 256K Pipeline Burst Cache
- 1.3GB Fast IDE HDD
- 14° SVGA Colour Monitor
- Fast 1MB EDD RAM 64-bit PCI SVGA Windows Accelerator card
- Jovstick and mouse
- Multimedia Kit with 12 speed Multisession CD ROM 16-bit Sound Card and 30 Watt

- Choice of Letus SmartSeita or Microsoft Family '97



Windows 95

- Ultimete Haman Body 2

Space Station Simulator

- Timetables of Technology

Microsoft Family '97

5 x 3D Games

Choice of Lotus Smartsuite or

Home Entertainment Software

Intel 166Miz Pantium Processor with

VX Chieset Mutherboard

32MB Fast EDO RAM 256K Pipeline Borst Cache

2GB Fast IDE HDD

### UP TO 34 SOFTWARE TITLES IN THESE GREAT VALUE SYSTEMS! LOTUS SHARTSLITTE: Lotus 123 (Spreadsheet). . Lotus WordPro

(Ward Processor) - Lotus Approach (Dutabase) - Lotus Freelance Gaptrics (DTP) - Lotus Organiser (Personal Management) - Lotus (Same) - Dogz (Screen Saver) - HOME ENTERDAINMENT Sodyworks • Kitchen Gournet • Design ITI 3D • The Oregon Trail · Home Gardener · Typing Teacher · Reading Journey · Berlitz French - MICROSOFT FAMILY '97: MS Works (Spreadsheet, Word Processor, Detablese) - MS Encarta 97 (Encyclopedia) - MS Money (Home Finance) - MS Creative Writer - MS Explorapedia - MS FOODBLE - MS CD SETTERS - MAKET BRAND SOFTWARE: Pod -Ultimate Human Body 2 - Space Station Simulator - Third Dimension - Timetables of Technology - ACDITIONAL TITLES: Learnark Workshop CO (5 titles) • 5 x 3D Games (Mechilianior 2, Havoc, Terminal Velocity, Actua Soccer, Namello) SEE SYSTEM SPECE ICATION FOR DETAILS

01734 596444 Broad Street Mali, (Upper Level - 350 Food Court) 0114 279 7855 SHEFFIELD 54 Cambridge Street (opp Henry's)
SOUTHAMPTON 01703 232261 The Bargate Shopping Centre, (Ground Floor) 01923 210020 42 Charter Place (Upper Level - opp C&A)

**OPENS SATURDAY IN THE EXCHANGE CENTRE, ILFORD** 

# **NEW INTEL PENTIUM PROCESSOR** WITH MMX™ TECHNOLOGY Over 60% faster with MMX™ brand software\*

- Faster, more realistic 3D graphics performance
- · Smoother, more realistic motion in games
- Faster communications over the Internet and Telephone (save money on your bills)
- Highest performing member of the Pentium<sup>4</sup> Processor family (10-20% faster)
- \*Intel Media Benchmark

0121 633 0903

BRIGHTON 40 London Rd., Brighton, (opp Co-op Dept store) 01179 300099 Union Gallery, The Galleries Shopping Critice, Broadmead 01222 666022 91 St. Mary St. (Heol Eglwys Fair), (opp Morgan Arcade) CHELMSFORD 01245 252345 3 Market Road, (opp County Hall)

15 St. Georges Walk, Croydon (top of High St)

# PC cesh price 61 197.33 (m.c. delivery 520+497 @ 17.5%). Pay whole balance on or before due payment data selected from Alternatively, pay 36 receivity payments of 642.45. Total amount payable 61506.20. APR 17.5%. Whiten quotations upon request, Finance architect to status. 0141 204 2300 GLASGOW 2 Queen Street

0181 549 9054 8 Castle Street, (nr Clocks Sandwich Shop) 0113 242 5111 LEEDS 0116 251 8882

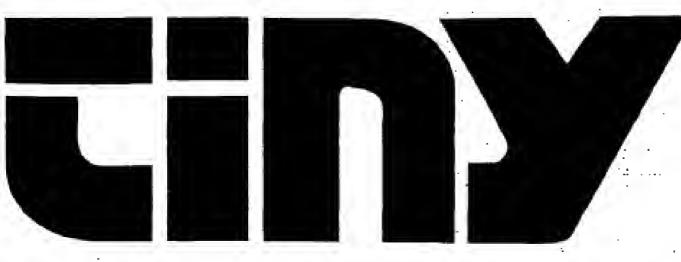
-0151 709 7095 71 Bold Street, (opp. Forbidden Planet) LONDON W1 0171 636 7613 Sonic Foto Centre, 256 Tottenham Court Rd

LONDON SW10 0171 823 3555 300 Fulham Road, Chelsea (nr Finborough Rd) Liverpool Street Arcade, Liverpool Street (opp SR) MANCHESTER 0161 237 5115 Piccadilly Plaza, Mosley Street ligh Friars, (Monument entrance) Eldon Square

0191 261 5252 NOTTINGHAM 0115 941 9461 Upper Mail, (Next to Boots), The Victoria Centre OXFORD

BUY THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY FROM THE EXPERTS

CALL FOR OTHER **PC PACKAGES** FROM £739 EX VAT £868.33 INC VAT



TINY COMPUTERS LTD, REDHILL BUSINESS PARK, BONEHURST ROAD, SALFORDS, REDHILL, SURREY RH1 5YB. TEL: 01293 821333

tions are subject to change without notice. Please check availability before ordering, Goods are offered for sale subject to standard conditions of sale evaluable on request, E&CE. Intel Inside Logo and Pentium are registered trademarks, and MMX is a trademark of the Intel Corporation.
PRICES EXCLUDE DELIVIERY.

المكذا من الأصل

# Seoul fights dirty in war on imports

Richard Lloyd Parry Seoul

Last October, a 40-year-old woman oamed Kim Kyong Suk was murdered in one of the most brutal ways imaginable. Early one morning, as she was driving home from the bar her car, and forced her to tell them her bank PIN. After emptying her bank account, they drove her to an abandoned warehouse, dug a shallow pit and, having knocked her around with a basehall hat, buried her alive.

lice stopped them in their victim's car, a Japanese Honda Accord, and discovered the bloodied baseball bat. Almost as remarkable as the cruelty of their crime was its motivation. "I wanted to take revenge on the world," said one of the gang, 20-year-old Choe Chong Su, when the police asked him why he did it. "And I especially hate people who drive fancy foreign cars."

The shivers this provoked in Korea were unusually intense. For the last 10 months, the media and consumer groups in Seoul have been riding a wave of negative feelings about foreign imports, of which the Makka-pa affair was only the most sensational manifestation. Within days, Seoul newspapers were carrying articles about female motorists cancelling their orders for foreign cars for fear of similar crimes. "It definitely affected sales," says Allan Rushforth, executive director of Rover Korea. "It was a key factor in the message that it is a bad thing to be seen in an imported car.

Without doubt it is a tricky time tn he a foreign businessman in South Korea. This week the head of the World Trade Organisatina, Renato Ruggiero, became the latest in a series of creet attention to an anti-import drive campaign which foreign diplomats and husioessmen claim is being carried out with the approval and indirect encouragement of the Korean government.

The "frugality campaign", as it is called, took off last year when trade statistics began to reveal an alarming downturn in nf nrigin was written on stekthe economy. Last year, Korea's rate of growth was 6.8 per cent, healthy by European standards, but a julting tumble from the 1995 rate of 9 per cent. More worrying was the fact that a country of 45 million people had a trade deficit of \$23.70m, secood only in the United States.

The mass of Korean imports are capital goods like fuel and heavy machinery - consumer goods make up little more than one-tenth of fireign sales, so a mat, "and the beat it's all deniable."

make little difference to the trade deficit. But this has not prevented an intense and vitriolic campaign which has left for-eign firms, including Marks & Spencer, Inchcape and United Distillers, oo the ropes.

Consumer organisations have launched aggressive camwhich she owned, a gang of nine paigns to promote "rational" young men pulled her from consumption and domestic poduce. An organisation called be Korea Central Council of Nightspot Operators has bared imported drinks from its premises. Small shopkeepensay that they have been visite by representatives of the stautothe Makka-pa or "Forsaken Life Gang", and they were caught a few days later when police stopped them in their states and mannipply and ordered not to sell foreign eigarettes under the threat of having heir supply of the domestic hrads withdrawn. "We've seen continuous to sell foreign eigarettes under the threat of having heir supply of the domestic hrads withdrawn. "We've seen continuous to sell foreign eigarettes under the threat of having heir supply of the domestic hrads withdrawn. "We've seen continuous to sell foreign eigarettes under the threat of having heir supply of the domestic hrads withdrawn." bacco mnnnpnly and ordered phlets with cartoons of Uicle Sam stuffing burning eigaretes into the mouths of childrn," says one whisky importer. "Xenophobic nationalism ithe

order of the day." This year, the giant Dacvoo conglomerate, which opentes hotels, trading companies and department stores, announced

nationalism is the order of the day. It is bad to be seen in a foreign car 9

that it would cease to impor all fineign goods. The government insists that the consumer grcips are acting independently and that their activities are nothing to do with it, but the most inister aspects of the campagn

bear a markedly official stanp. The recently opened braich high-level visitors to draw dischain Carrefour has found itell the subject of repeated heath checks, sometimes twice a day. Customs inspectors have recome unaccustomedly zealors, delaying shipments and invoking the letter of the law; nt a consignment of shoes impored by the new Senul branch of M&S, for instance, the courley ers. Customs insisted it had to

be carved into the sole. Newspapers have carried countless stories with such headlines as "Government Should Put an End to Ruirous Importing Disease". The govemment has declined all invitations to denounce the campaign and diplomats and officials are becoming increasingly impatient. "It's government by press release," says one diplo-mat, "and the beauty of it is that

a deprese Vie

14 . 27 pag

-

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

... :: 2 34 / 建

-

# French election pivots around euro Paris - In the British election. The curro has been the wicked. Chirac is trying to skate over a sea of domestic troubles by playing the Europe card, writes John Lichfield much as against Mr Jospin. A pain lian Mr Juppe. If the Socialists, Communists and green enter who has been the wicked. The consideration also calche much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The consideration also calche much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The consideration also calche much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The consideration also calche much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The consideration also calche much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The consideration also calche much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The consideration also calche much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The confidence much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The confidence much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The confidence much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The confidence much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The confidence much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The confidence much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The confidence much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The confidence much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence in re The confidence much as against Mr Jospin. A confidence much as agai

ball, but insisted on turning up anyway. In the snap French par-liamentary election, announced last night by Jacques Chirac, the European single currency will be, so the President hopes, the

principal and honoured guest. As ever, Britain and France are separated by more than 16 miles of water.

Mr Chirac may, however, be as disappointed as John Major with the shape and tone of the campaign, which will end in two rounds of voting on 25 May and 1 June. The President is breaking recent historical precedent by dissolving parliament early, essentially for tactical reasons. Like President Mitterrand. when he called an unnecessary referendum on the Maastricht Treaty in 1992, Mr Chirac hopes the popularity of Europe will

mend his own unpopularity. He risks finding, as Mitterrand found, that his domestic difficulties will test French commitment to Europe, almost to destruction.

Mr Chirac gave three reasons for calling the election eight months early (backing the hunch of his Prime Minister, Alam Juppé, against his own better judgement). He said the poll would allow France to re-ject the divisive and destructive message of the far-right Na-tional Front; it would give new impetus to his government's state-shrinking reform pro-gramme; and, most of all, it would provide a clear, new mandate for France to enter the tough final negotiations on the

maybe shallow, support in France. By making it the cen-tre-piece of the campaign, Mr Chirac and Mr Juppé hope to skim over a sea of other eco-nomic, fiscal and legal troubles (not least of which is likely legal action this summer against two senior cabinet ministers). The truth is that no new con-stitutional or political backing for the abolition of the franc was needed after the narrow vote in favour in 1992. The real arguments for bringing the poll for-ward were tactical: opposition

centre-right majority in parlia-ment as the year wore on. What is true is that France single currency next spring. has not yet debated the idea of The euro retains broad, but a single European currency,

even if it has approved it. A The great miracle, and mys-thorough debate of Emn in tery, is that no live political con-preserved between speaking, a healthy thing but it is not necessarily what Mr Chirac and Mr Juppé are seeking. If it happens, it may not go the way they would hope. The social and economic re-

form programme, undertaken unevenly since Mr Chirac was elected President in 1995, remains fundamentally unpopular. There is a grudging acceptance that the state must be shrunk; a desire for lower taxes and lighter social burdens parties were not ready and the economic and electoral climate on business. But there is also a was likely to turn against the broad anxiety that the privatisation of state industries, the refurm of health policy, or pensions policy, will take France on an alien Anglo-Saxon course

domestic reforms and spending cuts and the need to prepare the economy for Emu. The Front and the Communist Party, as well as dissident voices within the centre-right and centre-left, will use the election campaign to make precisely that

عكدًا من الأصل

connection if they can.
It is President Chirac and Mr Juppé's gamble - one among several - that such a debate would do most damage to the main opposition party, Lionel Jospin's Socialists.

For weeks Mr Jospin has been floundering in search of a coherent, alternative policy which would support the euro but offer a gentler alternative to the Juppé reforms.

The snap election also catches the Socialists (as Mr Juppé gamhied it would) halfway through the feminisation and rejuvenation of their front-line

By party edict, one third of candidates must be women. Most are chosen but few have started working on their constituencies. Even before the President's formal announcement, Mr Jospin seemed to fall

into the Emu trap.

He said he still supported the single currency but not at any price and not if it required fur-ther deep cuts in public spending. The centre-right sprang on this apparent gaffe: one minis-ter said Mr Jospin had "completely lost his pedals".

But this issue could play against the government, as

the polls suggest is unlikely but possible - the President could series of conflicting leaks in recent days has suggested France may be missing the Maastricht face five years of "co-habitation" spending targets and further with a rag-tag centre-left par-liament and government. Looked at one way. Mr harsh, emergency cuts may be needed, especially in social security (ie mostly, in practice, in

Chirac is betting his career on the tactical instinct of an unhealth spending). In any event, next year's budget will be a very popular Prime Minister, whose tough one. In the meantime, the main attribute is that there is no economic recovery is stuttering coherent alternative. Put another way. Mr Chirac, the heir and unemployment refuses to retreat. Further leaks of disapof de Gaulle, is gambling on the Euro-enthusiasm of a majority of the French people: their willingness to embrace the pointing budget figures could provide an explosive live wire between Emu and domestic grand design and long-term promise of the euro, without esspending cuts which the FN, Communists and others would happily exploit.

Mr Chirac is not, formally amining too closely the shortterm small print. The alternative - waiting until next speaking, standing for election. His presidential mandate ex-March - must have looked very

bleak indeed

# Saddam orders defiance of UN

Waiel Faleh Associated Press

Baghdad - In a fresh display of his trademark brinkmanship, President Saddam Hussein yesterday ordered his helicopters to defy a no-fly zone enforced by American jets and fly to the Iraqi-Saudi border to bring hack Iraqis returning from the

Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca. An official statement, carried by the state-run Iraqi News Agency, vowed "suitable re-sponse" if the United States in-terfered with the flights.

The While House warned lraq against violating the no-fly zone, hut said it would not at-tack the helicopters. Western albes introduced

the no-fly zone after Iraq's defeat in the 1991 Gulf War. It is meant to protect inhabitants of southern Iraq from reprisals by an unsuccessful anti-government revolt in the area.

The zone was extended in September to punish President Saddam for sending his army into northern Iraq to support one Kurdish faction against another. It now covers an area stretching from the southern suburbs of Baghdad down to Iraq's borders with Kuwait and

Saudi Arabia The Iraqi News Agency said helicopters would begin ferrying "sick and exhausted" pilgrims yesterday, hut did not say how many aircraft would be in volved or give the number of pil-

But, by nightfall, there was no word from Iraqi officials or the state-run media if any flights had taken place and reporters in Baghdad were told by officials they would be flown to the

Saudi burder today. The decision to use helicopters to ferry home the pil-grims was made after n joint meeting yesterday of the Revolutionary Command Council and the leadership of the ruling Boath Party - Iraq's highest bodies. The meeting was chaired by

President Saddam. On 9 April, President Saddam sent an Iraqi Airways jet carrying 104 pilgrims to Saudi Arabia in defiance of United Nations sanctions imposed in 1990 for Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. The sanctions han flights in and out of Iraq.

The United States failed last week to persuade the Security Council to condemn the Iraqi flight, settling instend for a mild rebuke.

Yesterday's announcement is the latest of several attempts by the Iraqi leadership to test the resolve of the international community, particularly the United States, to maintain

# China's wide-eyed army tiptoes in



New territory: Major General Bryan Dutton (left) welcoming Major General Zhou Borong to Hong Kong yesterday

Stephen Vines --Hong Kong ---

22 April 1997

For years Hong Kong has been worrying about China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) crossing the border. Now it has happened, but the full impact was a little muted by the advance guard being caught up in one of the colony's famous traffic jams. Yesterday 40 unarmed soldiers arrived in Hong Kong as

Hong Kong

the first part of the advance June. Months of acrimonious guard which will prepare for the arrival of the full garrison after the British army departs on 30

negotiation preceded this his-

toric event, which was some-

thing of an anti-climax. Packed

in eight mini-buses and cars the bemused looking soldiers made their way from the border to the Prince of Wales Barracks situated in the heart of Hong

Kong's financial district. Their commander, Major-General Zhou Borong, strode out of his modest black car looking pleased with himself and with the huildings which are shout to become the PLA's

The British put on a suitably modest welcoming ceremony, most of which was not conducted in front of the media

the incoming PLA force. "This is a historic moment for both British and Chinese armed forces," boomed Major General Bryan Dutton, the Commander of the British new Hong Kong headquarters. Forces, as he stood beside Gen-

& LARRY FEIGN

eral Zhon, who gave a pre-dictable reply in Chinese. British and Chinese negotiators are still hard at it trying to agree on how many more PLA troops will be allowed in before the handover of power. It seems likely that China will eventually post some 10,000 soldiers in Hong Kong, which is about the number Britain stationed in the colony before

who both outnumbered - and

looked more terrifying than -

Photograph: AP

the big drawdown in 1994. Hong Kong people remain wary of the PLA, following its role in the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre. However, a poll which appeared in the Ming Pao newspaper yesterday showed that only 29 per cent of those interviewed said they were afraid of the PLA being stationed in the territory. Thirty five per cent had no such

# significant shorts

# **Sudan treaty may pave** way for a wider peace

tends to 2002. But, in a sense,

Sudan's Islamic government and four southern rebel groups signed a treaty to end the 14-year-old civil war. A referendum will be held in which southerners will decide whether to secede. The treaty also gives the south more power running daily affairs, including using local customs instead of the Islamic law applied in the north. Former US president Jimmy Carter, who visited Sudan to discuss ways of stopping the war, said the treaty could pave the way for talks between the government and the Sudan People's Liberation Army, the main rebel group in the south. The four rebel groups that signed the treaty broke away from SPLA in the early 1990s. AP - Khartoum

### Refugee aid effort suspended

Aid workers suspended operations in Rwandan refugee camps after an outbreak of looting and murder and attacks on foreigners by Zairean. The murder of six local people sent Zaireans on a rampage, attacking foreigners and looting supplies near Kasese, 16 miles from Kisangani. Though it was not clear who burst into three Zairean homes and machine-gunned everyone inside, residents and Zairean rebel officials blamed Rwandans from nearby refugee camps.

# Bulgarian victor seeks backing

The Union of Democratic Forces, which won a hig parliamentary majority in Saturday's elections, said it would meet other parties today to seek support for its programme to lead Bulgaria out of crisis. The UDF leader, Ivan Kostov, said his priorities were carrying out reforms agreed with the International Monetary Fund, fighting organised crime and corruption, opening secret police files on public figures and hringing Bulgaria into the European Union and Nato. Reuters - Sofia

# **Bardot berates Muscovites**

Brigitte Bardot, actress turned animal-rights activist. attacked the Moscow authorities for a "planned massacre" of stray animals during the city's 850th anniversary. "I am ... horrified to learn that preparations for the celebrations include a massacre of all the city's strays," she said in a letter. Reuters - Paris strays," she said in a letter.

### Threat to sue Le Pen

An anti-racist group said it would sue the French far-right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen for saying gas chambers had nothing to do with anti-Semitism and repeating that they were a mere detail of the Second World War. France's Movement against Racism said Mr Le Pen's comment, in an interview with the New Yorker, following his espousal of racial inequality, was part of "a deliberate strategy of inciting racial hatred". Reuters - P. Reuters - Paris

### Allies pour into Vior<del>a</del>

Italian and Greek troops poured into the Albanian port of Vlora and secured a key bridgehead with a show of force. Nearly a week after soldiers from a multi-national security force secured two key ports of entry, Italian and Greek troops drove into Vlora as Italian marines splashed Reuters - Viora ashore in a seaborne landing.

### Chechens honour slain leader

Chechens gathered in a field to honour the separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev on the first anniversary of his death. He was killed by a Russian rocket which struck as be spoke on his satellite phone. Reuters - Gekhl-Chu

# Pole jailed over prostitute ring

A Polish court jailed a man for seven years for sending young women to work in brothels in Germany and Switzerland. The provincial court in the north-western port city Szczecin also fined the 32-year-old Pole. dentified only as Wlodzimierz R. Reuters - Warsaw

CENTRAL MALLECTOR

# Indian intrigue on hold as PM is sworn in

Jan McGirk New Delhi

India's mild-mannered foreign minister. Inder Kumar Gujral, was sworn in yesterday as Indian Prime Minister, thus ending three weeks of political intrigue and dithering in New Delhi. The capital seemed relieved to avoid the suspense of another national election and to get on with business as usual.

Mr Gujral is the third prime minister to take power in Del-hi since a hung parliament was wated in last spring. The 77-yearold former diplomat has a white gratee and resembles a beetlebrowed Kentucky Colonel Sanders: stem but benign. Af-

and the second of the second

ter he took vows at the Presidential Palace, Mr Gujral promised "clean government" which would "root out corruption". But he did not refer to the Congress Party, whose abrupt withdrawal from the coalition precipitated this unexpected political crisis.

"Elections are costly bur the price to be paid for instability and indecision is even greater," sud Atal Bihari Vajpayee, leador of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party, who hold the most seats in Parliament and would gain the most if Mr Gujral founders. To block the rise of the Hindu right, Congress has agreed to support a revamp-ed United Front from outside.

Mr Guiral has a reputation for integrity and a long political track record. Although both his parents were ardent Congress Party workers and he himself was jailed in 1942 as a student leader of the Quit India movement, Mr Gujral resigned from the Congress Party shortly after the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi de-

clared a state of emergency from 1975 to 1977. Later, as a member of parliament for the populist Janata Dal, Mr Guiral served twice as foreign minister. Born before partition in Jhelum, now across the border, Mr Guiral drew praise for his ability to bridge differences

with neighbouring Pakistan. In-

siders hope that the new Prime Minister's vaunted statesmanship can heal the rifts between unlikely political allies, now that Mr Gowda has been sacrificed for stability.

"He is not an opportunist and that's what makes me apprehensive of his ability to lead a bunch of unprincipled oppor-tunists who have got together in what is called the United Front," said Mani Shankar Aiyar, a New Delhi political columnist.

The outgoing Finance Min-ster, P. Chidambaram, was clearly annoyed by Mr Gujral's selection - especially because his own regional party, the Tamil Maanila Congress, was briefly tipped as the favourite to

take over the United Front coalition. The TMC have now deserted the 13-partner ruling coalition. But Mr Gnjral, who is ex-

pected to take on the portfolio of Finance Minister while retaining his old joh as Foreign Minister, intends to push through the pro-market budget put forward by the ousted gov-ernment, probably by end of this month. Such a move will signal stability and may encourage foreign investment in the region.

With the appointment of Mr Gujral, after two successive prime ministers from south india, the political power base has again shifted to the traditional cattle-rearing land of the north.



Gujral: Vaunted statesman who can heal political rifts



# Norman Pirie

Norman Piric was a biochemist following their move to Rothdistinguished for his pioneering work on plant viruses, a crusading advocate for the dietary use of leaf protein and, more broadly, a man of science who wrote with force and lucidity on many scientific questions of his time.

"Bill" Pirie was the third and youngest child of Sir George Pirie, the animal painter, and spent his early years in Torrance, Stirlingshire. The family lived in a large isolated house with cuough space for all of them to purearly schooling was disrupted for a number of reasons, including the development of a stammer. He maintained that this disruption allowed him more time in the lively, active atmosphere of his family and greatly benefited his intellectual development. From this upbringing he derived a strong sense of independence, self-reliance and frugality and a lifelong love of language and etymology.

At Cambridge (Emmanuel College) Pirie discovered hio-chemistry, and blossomed in the creative atmosphere of the department of Sir Gowland Hopkins. On graduatinn Hopkins appointed him demonstrator, and his early research work was on glutathione and sul-phur metabolism. He collaborated with Ashley Miles on the antigens of the pathogenic bacteria Brucella abortus, but of greater importance was his meeting Fred Bawden, who interested him in the problem of isolating the viruses responsible for causing diseases of potato. This was the beginning of 38

years of close friendship and col-laboration that only ended with Bawden's death in 1972. The collaboration continued

amsted Experimental Station in Harpenden, Bawden moving there in 1936 and Pirie in 1940. Here the scope of their work was extended and they accomplished the separation in semicrystalline or crystalline form of 12 or more viruses or strains of viruses, including tobacco mo-saic virus (TMV), and showed that they all contain nucleic acid of the type now called RNA, the genetic material of viruses. This was work of a high technical sue their own interests. Pirie's standard, and was, moreover, in a competitive area. Others, in-cluding W.M. Stanley, had previously claimed to have isolated TMV and made great reputations; but their preparations had few of the properties that we accept for TMV today.

If chance played any part in Pirie and Bawden's discovery of viral RNA, we must remember Pasteur's dictum that "chance favours only a prepared mind". Both Pirie and Bawden had prepared minds. They were sceptical of the then current con-cepts of "purity" when applied to large molecules, and sceptical too of the dominant emphasis on proteins. They were prepared to look for other components in virus preparations and acknowledge their possible importance. They realised that viral RNA might carry virus activity and tested this possibility. For technical reasons the results were negative, and it was left until 1956 for others to establish

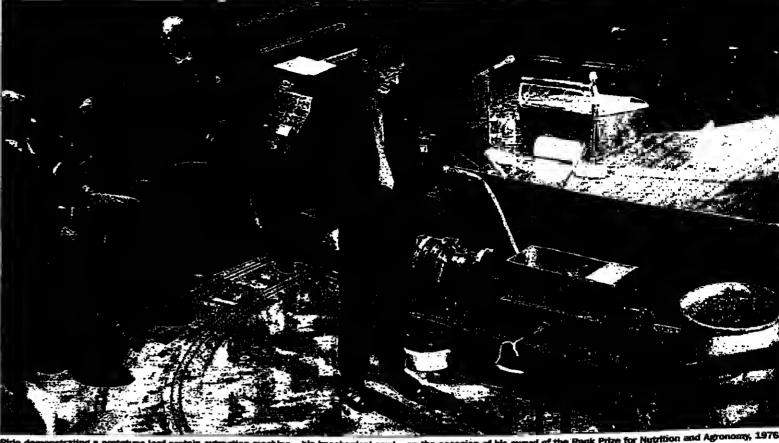
the infectivity of RNA. Pirie's mind was also well prepared for the striking semicrystalline nature of concentrated suspensions of TMV. He delighted in the coloured sheens that appeared when the opalescent suspensions were

swirled in a flask and viewed by polarised light. He correctly interpreted this streaming birefringence as the property of rodlike particles and used it to estimate their size. With characteristic flair, the birefringence was demonstrated at a Royal Society soirée when dilute suspensions of TMV were stirred by goldfish and sea horses. Pirie joked that, initially, suspensions of TMV were as popular with fish physiologists as with plant pathologists. By the 1950s Pirie's interest

shifted and he had begun his ardent campaign to promote extracted leaf protein as a beneficial and cheap human food. This work had begun with govemment encouragement during the early days of the Second World War, when there was concern over food resources. Pirie recognised the potential of leaf proteins which are indigestible in intact leaves and are only very inefficiently convert-ed to edible forms by herbivores.

After the war the project developed to encompass the nutrition of the world's increasing population. With a small team of engineers, chemists, nutrinonists and cooks, Pirie developed a variety of machines to disrupt suitable leaves, press the juice out of the fibre and steamprecipitate its proteins. Per-haps the most useful of these "mechanical cows" were the smaller "village units" that were designed to be used by rural communities with limited tech-

nical resources. With the help of charities, these units were exported to many less developed countries. Getting them installed and functional, and getting the green product incorporated into ac-



ceptable food, proved difficult, and involved social and political problems and prejudices. Although the nutritional value of the protein concentrates has been amply demonstrated in In-dia and elsewhere, the project has not taken off in the way Pirie boped and expected. The reasons are complex and it may partly be because the world protein deficit predicted during the 1950s has not materialised as expected. Nevertheless the project continues and it may well yet become needed; if and when it does, Pirie will have provided its necessary theoretical

Since his formal retirement Pirie studied beta-carotene, or pro-vitamin A content of his leaf extracts and became convinced that in the present circumstances, this was more important than its protein. The dietary deficiency of pro-vitamin A affects many hundreds of thousands of people worldwide, resulting in much preventable blindness. This situation was well known to Antninette (Tony) Pirie, Pirie's late wife, who as an internationally distinguished eyehinchemist munitored and

and tried to understand the destructive mechanisms and to prevent them. This work was financed by the shrewd investment of the Rank Prize for Nutrition and Agronomy with

which he was presented in 1976. Besides these main research subjects, Pirie published on a wide range of subjects, including the origin of life, the biology of space travel, the history of science, contraception and the dangers of nuclear weapons. There are as yet undeveloped patents on chemical contracrusaded against it. Pirie ob-served that the beta-carotene of his preparations was unstable, worked on both sides of the

population problem - population growth and its nutrition. His views on the origin of life were characteristically individual and he was sceptical of those who sought its origin in nucleic acid-like compounds produced in the "primeval soup" of the prebiotic earth. Forty years ago Pirie's friend J.D. Bernal, the distin-

guished physicist, wrote a book on this subject. Pirie was unimpressed, and in a forthright review, he sternly instructed Berual to emulate the cobbler and "stick to his last".

More generously, he conceded that Bernal would need as many arms as the mythical giant

Briareus to attend adequately to all the lasts on which he was qualified to bang. In thus describing Bernal, Bill Piric might well have been describing himself.

Norman Wingate Pirie, hiochemist: born Torrance, Stirlingshire 1 July 1907; Demonstrator, Biochemical Laboratory, Cambridge 1932-40; Virus Physiologist, Rothumsted Experimental Station 1940-46. Head of Biochemistry Department 1947-73; FRS 1949; married 1931 Antoinette Priter (died 1991; one son, und one daughter); died Harpenden, Hertfordshire 29 March 1997.

# **Margaret Brodie**

The Presbyterianism which is still deeply embedded in the Scots character militates against many things. This is most evident when it comes to advertising personal success and achievement. The belief that 'you work hard, but don't talk about it" is one reason why the careers of women like the architect Margaret Brodie have attracted so little attention: another was - in the days before "girl power" - being a successful woman in a man's world.

There is, however, much about Margaret Brodie which descrives to be recognised. She was one of the first fully qualified women architects in Scotland, graduating from Glasgow in 1928, the year of Charles



'Miss Brodle': tweedy county man cum femme fatale

firm Stewart and Paterson, she was employed in the London office of Sir John Burnet, Tait and Lorne, one of Britain's most Following the award of a pres- successful inter-war architectigious Rome scholarship and a tural practices. One of her first

of Thomas Tait's drawings for the Infectious Diseases Hospital in Paisley. When the hospital opened in July 1936, it was among the most advanced of its

kind in Europe.
Tommy Tait was to use
Brodie to brilliant effect in his most celebrated project, the 1938 Glasgow Empire Exhibi-tion. For this last great outpouring of imperial fervour on depressed Clydeside, Brodie not only designed the 15,000-square-feel "Women of the Empire Pavilion", but established the site and supervised much of the day-to-day operations from her drawing board in a wooden hut in Bellahouston Park. This was an extraordinary undertaking in the maledominated world of 1930s Glasgow. Brodie was undaunted by the task and by her own admis-

Born in Largs, an Ayrshire seaside town, in 1907 Margaret Brodie was one of the three daughters of a comfurtably-off chief civil engineer for the Glas-gow and South Western Railway Company. The Brodies came from that class of small landowners who were the back-bone of Victorian rural

Scotland. They were thrifty, hard-working and independent. Religion was central to every-day life. Margaret's father was a dominant figure. He was strict and held education to be very important, even for girls. Margaret was sent to "a good Glasgow school" before receiving "a classical architectural training".

Like many of her contemporaries she was not impressed by the work of Mackintosh - "he supports at diagonal corners, was a highly complex character. was old hat"—although later in Brodie created a building Deep conservatism was fre-her career she was to be in-her career she was to be in-which gave the impresson of a quently replaced by the most lib-tie ready to deal with a trou-Largs, Ayrshire 1907; died brief period with the Glasgow tasks was to work on the detail sion "had the time of my life". volved in restoration work at dropped pocket handkerchief. eral of views. Conventional blesome contractor. Growing Beith 14 April 1997.

Mackintosh's famous Hill House. It was American architecture that inspired her: "I admired the Chicago school, it was modern classicism."

In 1945 Brodie set up her own archiectural practice, and much of her work was subsequently to be with the Church of Scotland, either designing new churches or advising on the restoration and extension of existing buildings. There was also much work on the sympathetic restoration of vernacular buildings, particularly in Loch-winnoch. Despite her professed love of classicism over all. Brodie like Thit was adaptable, and one of her churches in Port Glasgow (1958) was far from traditional. Here with its roof

At the same time, her private work was combined with a lectureship at the Royal College in Glasgow (now Strathclyde University). Her students remember her as unique, being the only woman on the staff, hardworking, demanding, slightly eccentric and undervalued by a generation of 1950s students beguiled by more exotic foreign styles. In her private life she remained unmarried, her career managed in partnership with her sister Jean who, herself a lin-

publisher William Collins. "Miss Brodie" or "Miss Margaret", as she was always known in the Renfrewshire village of Lochwinnoch, where she lived in the picturesque Mill House,

guist, had been assistant to the

behaviour, grace before meals. and an admiration for the "county set", was combined in equal measure by a love of mod-ern art and highly eccentric, often quite outrageous behaviour. In her role as self-appointed critic of a local art exhibition she stood on many toes. Friends would go to any lengths not to be a passenger in her Porsche and to avoid the uniquitous fish pie she served for hunch.

In her dress, femone fatale was juntaposed with tweedy county woman. At the opening of the Empire Exhibition on 3 May 1938, newspapers reported her stunning appearance in the most glamorous ensemble. This feminine figure, ready to have a cigarette with Queen Mary.

old held no appeal for her; she enjoyed the company of young people, particularly men, with whom she flirted and put through trials of gladitorial questioning. Young children held no fascination - "Take it away and bring it back when it's grown-up" she would say pok-ing a toddler with her walking

The eccentricity and the bluffness were a mask. Miss Brodie was in fact a very shy and deeply sensitive woman, who had succeeded in a maledominated occupation. Despite this she hated feminism. "Never be a feminist, that's important", she would advise her young female friends.

Christopher C. Lee

# Jon Stone

The spectacle of enormous he won 18 Emmy Awards - the furry monsters cavorting with public figures, from Hillary Clinton and Barbara Bush to Cah Calloway and Burt Lancaster, would not have been possible without the colourful imagination of Jon Stone.

Regarded as one of the best writers of children's television, Stone helped to create such beloved characters as Big Bird, the Cookie Monster and Oscar the Grouch, that have been a staple of childhood entertainment since their creation nearly 30 years ago. Over the course of his career

television equivalent of the Oscars - and was widely credited as being the major creative force behind Sesame Street, the educational programme for children learning to read and write, which relied heavily on cartoons and puppets to convey its message and, at the peak of its popularity, was watched by eight out of ten US preschool children. In collaboration with Jim Henson, he wrote Sex and Violence with the Muppets, the template for the extraordi-

narily popular The Muppet

Educated at Pomfret School in Connecticut. Stone graduated in music from Williams College in Massachusetts in 1953 and, hoping to become an actor, received a masters degree from the Yale University School of Drama in 1955. Instead he moved into television production, with early credits including Captain Kangaroo, a children's film festival for CBS, and, with Jim Henson, a series called Hey, Cinderella.

In 1968 Stone helped bring Henson into the creative team working on the first episodes of Sesame Street. Stone was the

1766; José de Madrazo y Kuntz, painter, 1781; William Linton, land-

original head writer and producer of the show and remained its principal director until last year. "He was probably the most brilliant writer of children's television in America," said Joan Ganz Cooney, one of the programme'a co-founders.

Stone's brilliance was to be able to create characters that appealed not only to children but to adults. "He managed to give them a satiric and edgy kind of humour at the same time," said Christopher Cerf, a creative

contributor on the show. In creating Big Bird, a man-sized yellow hird, Stone and

Henson wanted to instil cu- the philosophy that the proriosity in children. "They want- grammes should be more than ed a character who was bigger a children's show. We set out than the kids but didn't know to make a show that children everything," said Cerf, "They and adults could watch togeth-wanted to show that everyone er, and children could ask makes mistakes, including adults, that hig characters have

with this huge hird." Stane was also the producer, director and writer of a number projects involving Sesame Street characters, including the trav-elogues Big Bird in China (1983) and Big Bird in Japan (1989). Both shows, Stone later explained, were an extension of

things to learn, so they came up

er, and children could ask

questions," he said. Stone was also the writer of children's books, including The Monster at the End of This Book (1971), a Muppet tale featuring another furry monster, Grover. The book sold more than 10 million copies and was followed by Another Mon-ster at the End of This Book last

year.
If there was any character

that Stone most closely resemhled himself it was Oscar the Grouch, "Oscar was a character who was very contrary and would make outrageous statements about everything but .. he showed tolerance for different points of view," said

"John was that way himself, he never took himself too seriously and loved to be silly and outrageous. He was a little hit of an anarchist. He loved it if there was a sketch in which he

could throw puppet sheep up in



Jon Stone, television producer, director and writer, born New Haven, Connecticus 1932; married (two daughters); died New Edward Helmore York 29 March 1997.

# Births, Marriages & Deaths

**BIRTHS** 

MOORE: Natalie and Dave are de-lighted to announce the safe arrival of a sister for Alex. Cara Clare, born at 10355 on 9 April 1997, at Chelsen and Westminster Hospital. PARKHOUSE: On 18 March 1997, to

Philippa (nee Scott) and Mark, a daughter. Engenie Philippa, a sister for Antoinette Frances. DEATHS

BARKERI Edward, died in the early hours of Friday 18 April, at Medway Hospital. A very special and talented man, who will be sadly missed, but not forgotten by his wife, animals and many friends. Cremation. Monday 28 April. Kensal Green Crematorium, Loudon, 3.15pm. Enquiries to Thomas Fowle and Sons, 01634 85143.

For Gazette, telephone 0171-293 2012.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS ROYAL ENCAGEMENTS
The Queen Menther with Unkhard I hance, the Racnet W. Bur. Christon. Humb. Nevantaries, Saffed. The
Primers Bread, Frankrut Ramil Hermany Bread, queen
an allenable heating technic or Taken Court, High
Halds a hern, and perfective a Third Thresing Corpusation (Lorent Primer) of the Recenture in busing nehrman
on Research is heatt, as Percelotal of Patrone, Cross Contern, attends a Business. Lanch at Marks & Spenner.
Michael House I confirm W.I. in Chancellon, Landon
University of the Department of Concerd Principe.
Carety Principe. Confirm W.I. in Chancellon, Landon
University of the Department of Lorent Principe.
Carety Principe. Confirm W.I. in Chancellon, Landon
University of the Chancel Control of Threshold,
Lanch on St.I. II, and a Berkellon Control Principe.
Carety Principe.
Landon W.H. I. in Chancel Control of Confirmed
Lorent Chair, until a of Rosely Story on Westbedon Park.
Lendon S.W. 10, and method-set-Story on Business
of the Adjustment Control of Control
Chancelon, Builland, Wishbirt, and whoth the Adjustment Control, Builland, Wishbirt, Mangham Wander, Newsydner, Newsydner, Denny Menther of Rosel,
Person, Wenghouse, Manghamber The Business of Karlon
Parkson, Wenghouse, Manghamber The Business of Rosel,
Person, Wenghouse, Manghamber Wenghouse of England
Control Mills Brank Lobdon W. C.
Chancelong of the Caramand Changing of the Guard child Cambre Meusted Regiment intumes in Life Guard at Horse Gourds, Unit; let The Renal Regiment of Wiles invents the latted, at Bondingham Polaris, 11.70am, and for the Criphing Catach.

### Birthdays Mr Leo Abse, former MP, 80; Mr Ed-

die Albert, actor, 89; Sir Michael Atiyah, mathematician, 68; Sir Christopher Ball, former Warden, Keble College, Oxford, 62; Mr Lewis Biggs, Curalor, Thte Gallery, Liverpool, 45; Mr Alan Bond, yachtsman and businessman, 59; Mr Peter Bowring, former chairman, C.T. Bowring, 74; Mr Glen Campbell, country singer 59; Mile Yvette Chauvird, prima ballerina, 80; Sir John Chilcot, Permanent Under-Secretary, Northern Ireland Office, 58; Mr George Cole, actor, 72; Miss Carole Drinkwater, actress, 49; Mr Alan Dukes, former leader of the Fine Goel party in Ireland, 52; Mr Peler Frampton, musician, 47; Sir William Gage, High Court Judge, 59; Mr Lloyd Honeyghan, boxer, 37; Mr Robin Hutton, merchant banker, 64; Mr Ronald Hynd, choreographer, 66; Mr Nico Ladenis, restaurateur, 63; Dr Geoffrey Marshall, Provost, Queeu's College, Oxford, 68: Lord Menuhin, vinlinist, 81; Mr Jack Nicholson, actor, 60; The Earl of Oxford and Asquith, former Governor of the Seychelles, 81; Miss Margaret Pereira, forensic scientist, 69; Sir Edward Ratford, former ambassador to Norway, 63; Mr R.J. Ritchie, former tennis player, 87, Professor Sir Eric Scowen, physician, 87; Mr Charles Sisson, author and poet, 83; Mr David Summerscale, Headmaster, Westminster School, 60; Sir Robert Wade-Gery, executive director and

Anniversaries Births: Isabella, Oucen of Castile and Leon, 145t; Henry Fielding, novelist. (707; Immanuet Kant, philoso-pher, 1724; Madame de Staël (Anne-Louise-Germain Necker.

painter, 1781; William Linton, land-scape painter, 1791; Wilfred Elling-ion Bendall, composer, 1850; Phil (Philip William) May, caricaturist, 1864; Leuin (Vladimir Ilich Ulyanov), statesman, 1870; Ellen Anderson Gholson Glasgow, novel-ist, 1874; Alexander Feodorovich Kerensky, politician, 1881; Otto Rank, psychoanalyst, 1884; Sergei Sergeyevich Prokofiev, composer, 1891; Kathleen Mary Ferrier, con-tralto, 1912; Julius Robert Oppen-heimer, physicist, 1904; Sir Sidney Nnlan, painter, 1917. Deaths: Juhn Iradescant, gardener, 1662; James Hargreaves, inventor of the spinning jenny, 1778; John Crome, landscape

jenny, 1778; John Crome, landscape painter, 1821; Thomas Rowlandson, cartoonist, 1827; Richard Trevithick, steam engineer, 1833; Victor-Antoine-Edouard Lalo, composer, 1892; William Stubbs, historian and bishop, 1901: Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, statesman, 1908; Juhn Passmore Edwards, newspoper proprietor and philanthropist, 1911; Jeppe Aakjaer, poet and novelist, 1930; Frederick Henry Royce, motorcar pioneer, 1933, Sir Francis (Frank) Job Short, engraver and painter, 1945; Ignarius Roy Dunnachie Campbell, poet, 1957; Basil Dean, actor, manager and playwright, 1978; Ansel Easton Adams, photographer, 1984; Richard Milhous Nixon, 37th US president, 1994. On this day: Pedro Alvarez de Cabral reached Brazil and claimed it for Portugal, 1500; the Royal Society was incorporated, 1662; Napoleon defeated the Piede at the Battle of Mondovi, 1796; the Bahic Exchange, London, was founded (as the Baltic Club), 1823; St Helena became a Crown

Colony, 1834; the packet ship Sirius crossed the Atlantic for the first time

under continuous steam power, the voyage taking 18 days, 10 hours, 1838;

when poison gas was used for the first time by Germany, 1915; British forces made a raid on Zeebrugge, 1918; the London Conference met, and the great powers signed the Naval Reduction Treaty, limiting submarines and aircraft carriers, 1930; Allied forces landed in New Guinea, 1944; the New York World's Fair opened, 1964; the army in Greece efopened, 1964, the amp in Greece effected a coup, and martial law was declared, 1967. Today is the Feast Day of St Agipatus I, pope, Saints Epipodius and Alexander, St Leonides of Alexandria, St Opportuna and St Theodore of Sykeon. Today is also the First Day of Passover.

### Lectures

National Gallery: Alexander Sturgis, "Drawings (iv): Leonardo's car-Victoria and Albert Museum: Fiona

Anderson, "British Tailoring from 1947 onwards", 2.30pm. Tate Gallery: Eric Shanes, "Turner" Watercolour Explorations", tpm. British Museum: Richard Woff, "Dead Greeks: ancient Greek funerary imagery", 1.15pm. National Portrait Gallery: Joan

Williams, "The Royals in Focus", 1.10om. laboration with Camden Arts Centre), London WCt: Dan Graham, "Architecture", 6.30pm.

Royal Over-Seas League Sir David Ford, Commissioner for Hong Kong in London, was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Royal Over-Seas League's Discussion Circle held yesterday evening at Over-Seas House, St James's, London SWI, His subject was "Hopes and Prospects of Hong Kong after 30 June", Miss Hazel Filis presided.

# Camelot should bring private prosecution

Prosecutions, ex parte Camelot Group pic; Queen's Beach Divisional Court (Lord Justice Simon Brown, Mr Justice Curtis)

Where it was sought to chal-lenge, by way of judicial review, the refusal of the Director of Public Prosecutions to mount a prosecution, the court should adupt a flexible approach, the only rigid rule being that civil courts should not intervene once criminal proceedings had begun. Criminal disputes were, however, best decided in criminal courts between the parties most directly affected by their outcome, and the availability. of an alternative remedy such as a private prosecution was

always relevant. The Divisional Court granted Camelot Group plc's application for leave to move for judicial review of the decision of the Director of Public Prosecutions not to prosecute 49's Ltd for running an illegal lottery, but dismissed the

substantive application.

Camelnt had referred the proposed scheme to the Director of Public Prosecutions. requesting the institution of criminal proceedings. The Crown Prosecution Service did

# LAW REPORT

22 April 1997

pared in prosecute its pro-moters. The Attorney-General had also refused Camelot's reremedy. quest to be allowed to bring a relator action. Anthony Temple QC, David Pannick QC, Andrew Fleicher (McKenna &

(Crown Prosecution Service) for the Director of Public Prosecutions); Michael Beloff QC, Tim Kerr (S.J. Berwin & Co) for 49's Limited. Lord Justice Simon Brown said that the basis of the proposed challenge was that the

Co) for Camelot; Stephen Richards

lawful lottery, and were not pre-

Director's refusal to prosecute was founded on an error of law, namely a failure to recognise that 49 Ltd's scheme constituted an unlawful lottery. The central question was whether it was a case which Camelot ought properly to be allowed to argue in the context of a judicial review challenge to the refusal to prosecute.

Camelot acknowledged that judicial review would be granted "only where there was no other equally effective and convenient remedy" (see per Lord Widgery CJ in Rv Hilling-don London Borough Council nnt, however, consider that exp Royco Homes Ltd [1974] the scheme constituted an un-QB 720 at 728), but submitted

that a private prosecution would not provide such a

The Director disputed that. Camelot was not concerned about the quality of the Director's decision-making, but rather the continuation of the 49's scheme. The direct and obvious way of ending that was by Camelot itself prosecuting rather than by seeking to force

the Director's hand. 49's Limited submitted that the court should not entertain Camelor's challenge, since if successful it would inevitably result in stigmatising a third party's conduct as criminal.

The decision was not one of high principle. The court should adopt a flexible approach to the exercise of its declaratory jurisdiction in this field. The only rigid rule was, following Imperial Tobacco Lid v Attorney-General [1981] AC 718, that once criminal proceedings had begun the civil

courts should not intervene. Criminal disputes, even upon pure issues of law, were best decided in criminal courts between the parties most directly affected by their outcome. The civil courts should be wary of embarking on the jurisdiction

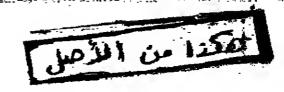
otherwise than at the suit of the Attorney-General (not least where he had refused his fiat for relator proceedings), and when existing, not merely prospective, conduct was involved and a declaration of criminality was sought, rather than one of noncriminality.

The availability of an alternative remedy was always relevant, and might be decisive. Not only was a private prosecution as effective and convenient a remedy as judicial review for pursuing Camelot's true grievance, hut it was indeed their only proper remedy. It seemed undestrable for the court to be invited to declare C a criminal in proceedings brought by A against B, even where C was made a party to the application.

In short, but for one consideration the application for leave to move would have been unhesitatingly refused. However, the contrary view was properly arguable and the point might be thought to be of some importance.

A refusal of leave would spell the end of the matter. Leave would therefore he granted, and the substantive challenge dismissed. Camelot could then, if they wished, seek to carry their argument forward.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister



THE INDITIONS

# A vote for Sinn Fein is a vote for violence

the people of Ireland have by the use of code-words and the expressed a yearning for a lasting occasional real bomb. The one thing peace settlement and a new democracy. If this challenge is to be translated into reality then we must all respond to it with courage and imagination. Not *The Independent's* words, but those of Gerry Adams, parliamentary candidate and would-be new democrat. It is easy to condemn the bypocrisy and self-importance of these sentiments, penned by an apologist for terrorism in his autobiography. But condemnation is not enough. It is easy to satirise the "courage and imagina-tion" with which the IRA has prosecuted its pre-election campaign of disruption in England. It has certainly been imaginative, if the courage involved in telephone hoaxing is less apparent. But mockery is not enough. It is all too easy to point out the counter-productive illogic of the IRA-Sinn Fein campaign for a united Ireland. The idea that, by forcing much of the population of London yesterday and great swaths of Britain last week to get on their bikes to go to work, the cause of Irisb republicanism is advanced is moonshine.

The people of London were pushed into deep thought about whether the car economy really is sustainable. whether global warming really bas changed the weather, whether there is anything that can be done to thwart tactical disruption of British national life

they did not think about, except possibly when prompted by journalists and phone-ins and six-year-olds repeatedly asking "Why?", was about the injus-tice suffered by the nationalist popu-lation of Northern Ireland since 1922.

And if they had thought about it, they were bardly likely to exclaim, as they sat in what seemed like city-wide gridlock, "My goodness, that Gerry Adams is quite right, after all." Many people in Great Britain already think the troops should be withdrawn from Northern Ireland and the territory handed to the Irish Republic - but mainly on the basis that it is a tangled mess and should be left to the Irish themselves to sort out. But those who disagree, mainly because a majority in Northern Ireland wants to remain in the United Kingdom, are not going to be swayed by terrorism.

If they were swayed, they might do worse than read Mr Adams's autobiography, which would only have the effect of strengthening their original view. The impassioned call for political leadership all round, a new democracy and "an inclusive process of negotia-tion" is negated by an unyielding state-ment of the goal, described as "a settlement between the people of Britain and the people of the island of Ireland, based on respect for our mutual independence", which is only a wordy way



ONE CANADA SQUARE CANARY WHARF LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE 0171-293 2000 / 0171-845 2000 FAX 0171-293 2435 / 0171-845 2435

leader, who at the weekend proclaimed "a dream" of a peaceful Ireland, is a spokesman for the men of violence and indeed that he was one of them himself. For, while Londoners, Mancunians and Grand National racegoers might tut with irritation while grudgingly admitting relief that the new IRA strategy has not killed anyone on the mainland (yet), it must be remembered that in Northern Ireland the IRA is still torturing, intimidating and killing. Last month the IRA shot a soldier dead; earlier this month it shot and

of saying "a united Ireland". The book almost killed a policewoman. confirms that the plausible Sinn Fein It is, bowever, not enough to condemn this odious twisting of the language of democracy, in which violence can be justified as a way of seeking a united Ireland, when the people of Northern or Southern Ireland reject the violence and, on

these terms, the forced unification too. Why? Because Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness do represent a community of real people in Northern Ireland. Sinn Fein may represent only 15 per cent of the vote, but the sense of grievance that animates this section of our society is enough to sustain a could elect Sinn Fein MPs. When Sinn

campaign of terror for decades to come. It has to be recognised that Mr Adams and Mr McGuinness are walking a tightrope, trying to retain their credibility with the dark forces behind them while attempting to deliver something concrete for their constituents.

So, what way forward after the election? In the long term, the right approach must be to make the republican minority feel that its aspirations are taken seriously – however incompatible they are with the aspirations of others. That is the underlying argument for including Sinn Fein in all-party talks. It is an urgent matter: the new government, of whichever party, could face a crisis in Northern Ireland within weeks. The Orange marching season bas already begun, with the hot month of July not far away. John Major got stuck on the weapons issue, but there is a case for a new Labour government being bolder. History would not condemn Tony Blair for talking to terrorists who retained their arms in the short term if the outcome were a lasting peace or even, more likely, a succession of temporary cease-fires which might grow into a longer peace. If it did not succeed, what would have been lost?

But before then, the general election itself offers a chance to engage with the republican communities of West Belfast, Mid-Ulster and West Tyrone, the only three constituencies which Fein polled its record 15.5 per cent in the Forum elections last year, it was widely interpreted as a vote for a new cease-fire and for the channelling of republican demands into the democ-ratic sphere. But if Sinn Fein polls well on Thursday week, it will be interpreted as a vote for violence and for a continuation of the campaign of terror. Let us send a message to the electors in those seats: this time, vote for anyone except Sinn Fein.

# Labour's passion for purple

What happens when you take bright, pillar-box socialism red and mix it with rich, aristocratic Tory blue? You can try this at home, but the answer is purple. Question: why is purple the new Labour colour? Does it have anything to do with a subtle suggestion from Millbank spin-people that they are moving deftly rightwards? Will the New Lahour purple deepen and deepen so that, one day, when no one is paying attention, it suddenly looks indistinguishable from blue - a good colour to go with Union Jacks and hulldogs? What a cynical thought: we are assured that the reason is simply that purple is the "colour of passion". Fair enough. But a passion for what?

# • LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

# What can the IRA hope to achieve?

Sir: Could a spokesman for the IRA explain to me as a working, travelling Londoner what my response should be to bomb threats which close London stations? My first instinct is to curse the IRA and then maybe all the Irish, North and South, but that is neither fair nor

If the bombs are a punishment for past history someone could argue a justification, but no progress is made to a future solution. Does the LKA (and Sinti Fein) not realise that the obstacle to their wisbes is not the British public but a large number of the people of Northern Ireland? I do not say "majority", because I believe and hope that the majority want peace and the possibility to live their lives

without disruption. For nearly 30 years, IRA tactics have been met only with intransigence and retaliation. I do not understand what the current campaign can, or bopes to, achieve. NICHOLAS HOOTON London SE8

t ferruphett.

are culture

### **Education for** a rich élite

Sir. You are right (leading article, 21 April) to suggest that politicians are only pretending that education is their first, second and third priority.

If it really were, not only would they think their ideas through more clearly, but they (and you) would devote some space to the plight of tertiary education, public spending on which (excluding tuition fees and maintenance grants) puts the UK second from bottom among OECD nations.

You are also right to dismiss simplistic appeals for a return to selective schools. However, you are wrong to imply that selection no longer exists, or that current selection criteria are defensible.

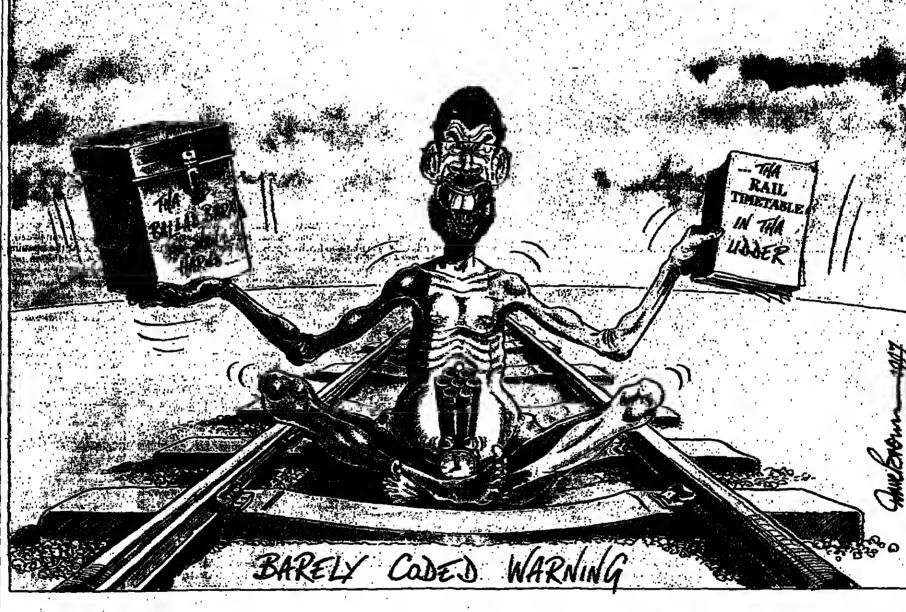
Figures published last week reveal that whereas a majority of the young people from the most affluent neighbourhoods enter higher education, only 10 per cent of young people from the poorest neighbourhoods do so.

This is hecause the schools serving richer neighbourhoods (particularly the public schools) operate their selection primarily on the criterion of affluence. We have moved from a system of higher education which was small though largely meritocratic to one which is larger but increasingly elitist. This is an issue which no party is addressing squarely.

P K BURGESS President Association of University Teachers London Will

Sir: Your correspondents (Letters, 19 April) rightly point out how all the political rhetoric about the education system can be undercut by observing where government ministers send their children to be educated and how much they are

prepared to pay. But before jumping to the conclusion that abolition of private education is the key to improving state schools, let us be cautious. The last 10 years of the National Curriculum (this does not apply to the private sector) have seen a remarkable shift in perception of what schools are all about. Both Labour and Conservatives see



education as having an overwhelmingly economic purpose. There are levels of attainment to be reached, norms to be met. Testing, assessment, measures of value are the new language. Where have the liberal values of education gone? If they are thriving anywhere it will be in the private sector, albeit a small

A healthy education system needs more than an equitable distribution of resources; if it is to be worth having, it needs room for dissent and variety. Education is too important to be left in the hands of the Government. PETER POOL

Shipley. West Yorkshire Sir: Your article on "phoney

addresses and religious conversions" (17 April) caught my attention as for several years I served as a governor of a local Church of England infants' school with special responsibility for admissions. This was, and still is, a highly popular school which therefore had to apply strict criteria for admission. We used a simple way of a

verifying a child's bome address which requires more than a compliant friend to faisify; that is, to insist on seeing the child benefit hook or document for that particular child. When an offer of a place was made, the parent or carer was asked to return the acceptance in person and at the same time to show the child benefit document to the school secretary, if they declined to do this, the offer of a place would be withdrawn. I believe that in this way we were able to climinate the sort of dishonesty

over addresses described in your JOANNA FRENCH London SE21

Sir: On page 3 of today's edition
(21 April) you reveal that Eton
College, a charitable institution
used by the very wealthy, has assets
of £13 im. On Page 9 a story on
hospital waiting lists now exceeding
1.1 million. On the letters page a
plea for continued state subsidy for the wealthy to educate their

Surely the Tory campaign will reveal plans to stop this waste of public money. By shutting more hospitals. JONATHAN DUMBELL London E11

### Aid with too many strings

Sir: Your front page lead of 18 April was a valiant attempt to raise the election campaign to issues of aid and development. It rightly emphasised the good work done by Chancellor Kenneth Clark in getting Western countries to agree to debt relief proposals; and contrasted this with the role of the IMF, and the USA in particular, in delaying their introduction and tying them to the kind of economic shock treatment seen in Eastern

Europe. However, your economics editor, Diane Coyle, does no service to an informed debate by telling readers that "the

Conservative manifesto does not mention aid, while Labour's affirms its commitment to spending 0.7 per cent of national income on overseas aid". In truth, not only does the Tory manifesto mention aid, but in many respects it says much the same about it as Labour, while both parties make clear that

the UN's target of 0.7 per cent of GDP is a spending objective, not a In one crucial respect, though, they are rather different. The Tories want to focus aid on countries "growing towards self-sufficiency under democratic government", while Labour wants to target aid to those in greatest need. While the Conservatives seem to expect countries such as Rwanda to play by "Westminster

rules". Labour is interested only in the poorest of the poor. But where does any of this leave those developing countries that aren't starving, or show precious little sign of "growing towards democracy"? NEIL PARTRICK

### **British Library** goes online

London N7

Sir: I sympathise with the frustration experienced by Mike Ainscough (letter, 16 April) in trying to gain online access to the holdings of the British Library, but can assure him that his frustration will be short-lived. On 20 May, in response to our

users' needs and wishes, the British Library will lannch OPAC 97, which will provide free access via the World Wide Web to the main reading room catalogues. Anyone with Internet access and a Web browser will have access to OPAC 7 without the need for any additional software or system.

should the state have a say in

time that we recognised that

institutions with two different

defence, and 10 oversee the

internal church matters? It is about

church and state are two separate

goals. The church is to preach the gospel and function as salt and light in society. The state is to provide law and order and national

economy and so on. The relationship should be an indirect

moral pressure to bear upon the

one, with the church hringing

state and the state upholding

freedom of religion. The Rev GUY A DAVIES

Sturminster Newton, Dorset

On track for

confrontation

of the money spent on Ms

should have been spent on

their opinions are irrelevant.

Sir: John Willcock's new manly

piece on Nicola Foulston, chief

executive of Brands Hatch Leisure.

(17 April) insults the British racing

Quite a few people felt that some

establishment and British racers.

Foulston's cosmetic improvements

improving the track itself. But then,

they're "only in it for the sport" so

Nicola Foulston didn't run up

because she was a woman taking on

the "blazer-and-cravat-wearing male motor-racing establishment".

Racers aren't sexist as a general

rule - as even Barbara Cartland,

who used to race Bentleys in the

late Twenties, could tell you. She ran up against people who simply

didn't like the cut of her jib - for

very good reasons.

PROSPER KEATING

against a "wall of testosterone"

A digitisation programme comparable to that of the Library of Congress would need funding comparable to that given to our American colleagues. Sadly, such esources seem unlikely to be forthcoming from this or any other government in the near future. BRIAN LANG Chief Executive The British Library ondon NWI

### Church and state belong apart

Sir: Andrew Brown's article "Frailty, thy name is Williamson" (15 April) raises one big question. Not that of the ordination of womer priests (as a Nonconformist I recognise the priesthood of all believers), but that of the disestablishment of the Church of England. At a time when constitutional reform is back on the political agenda no one seems to be asking whether it is about time we reviewed the constitutional anomaly

that is the Anglican Church.
The legal shenanigans over the

ordination of women priests instigated by Paul Williamson are both costly and absurd. Why

### etter (21 April) attacking Vanessa Redgrave for ber intention to vote iberal Democrat. It is sad to see Bruce Kent

reduced to supporting "tactical" voting. I admired him as a passionate and articulate ampaigner for CND in the

A tactical vote is

a negative vote Sir: I was both saddened and somewhat amused by Bruce Kent's

Eighties who put principles before pragmatism and played a prominent role in the opposition to Conservative defence policies. Tactical voting is better described as negative voting, where voters are asked to put their views to one side and vote to stop another candidate from winning. It rests on a series of questionable assumptions about voting behaviour and the ability of forecasters such as Mr Kent (and Mystic Meg. perhaps) to predict the outcome in any constituency.
ROBERT MEADOWCROFT

Sir: You are correct to remind us that "It's not over yet" in your lead report of 21 April, But your focus group survey does not "confound the polls" - it bears out their figures with almost uncanny accuracy.

A close examination of the

London E10

voting preferences expressed by the 30 people interviewed reveals that of the 24 who said they voted Tory last time, only 13 have definitely decided to do so again, five are undecided and six have switched to other parties. Thus, even if all five "undecideds" return to the Tory fold, the party will still have lost a quarter (six out of 24) of its former supporters. This is precisely in line with recent opinion polls, which show the Tories down from their 42 per cent share of the vote in 1992 to about 31 per cent now - a fall of one quarter. NICK CATTERMOLE London SW16

Sir. While we were driving in Norfolk recently my daughter said that she felt sorry for the Conservatives. I asked why. She said that they all seemed to be homeless: after all, nearly all of their election posters are in fields and not outside houses, like those of the other parties. **HUMPHREY BORGNIS** North Elmham, Norfolk

Sir: The Tory manifesto claims at page 44 that Britain under the party's stewardship is "A World Leader in Sports, Arts and Culture". Arts, perhaps; culture. even: hut sport? I may, as a residual Oz, be slightly biased. Even so, doesn't this make it as Francic Boast of the Campaign? BRUCE PAGE London EC2

# Ambridge lobby

Sir: Your report that the Secretary of State for the Environment has changed his mind on the planting of lucrative flax in an East Sussex site of special scientific interest surely has little to do with the merits of nature conservation. Rather it has everything to do with the fact that Simon Pemberton, middle-class hate figure and certain Tory in The Archers, intended to replant the whole of Grange Farm with it once the Grundys were

Mr Gummer's political antennae remain as finely tuned as his research assistant's radio. CHRIS MOORHOUSE

evicted.

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity. We regret we are unable to acknowledge unpublished letters. The sacred sites of Britain

Tomorrow sees the launch of a huge project to protect stone circles, ruined abbeys and sanctified sites around the world. Paul Vallely expands on the definition of sacred and suggests some precious places of his own

ust to he on the safe side they took the statue and hurned it publicly in Smithfield as if it were a living heretic. The object in question was the Black Virgin of Willesden which had apparently drifted miraculously up from the bottum of a holy well in the 12th century and had become the centre of a cult of healing and the focus of pilgrimage. At the Reformation the early English Protestants did not, of course, helieve that the lump of wood possessed any supernatural powers, hut it was best not to take any chances.

For the next 400 years the well remained sealed beneath the 10th century church of St Mary's in the oorth Londoo suhurh - though until 1902 the parish had to pay an annual fine of £1 6s 0d, originally imposed by Henry VIII, in penance for having ever given the statue nave-room.

Tomorrow the Archbishop of Canterbury will visit the reopened well, with its new hlack madonna, to bless the waters in the company of representatives of eight other faiths - from Baha i to Taoist - in the launch of an international Sacred Land project which seeks to protect sanctified sites in more than

The enterprise is something of a success even before it begins. With a five-year hudget in this country of £750,000 hacked by the Duke of Edinburgh and funded by the Worldwide Fund for Nature, the Pilkington Foundation and the Japanese organic agricul-

- it set out to sponsor 2,000 sites by the year 2000 hut has adopted 700 already and is now aiming for 5,000 in the UK. the place where

But in addition to the predictable stone circles, ruined abbeys, sacred groves, holy wells and old pilgrimage routes its organisers have decided - in pursuit of their claim that everyone in the country is within 10 miles of a sacred site - that they have to invent some now an SNP new ones. "The creation of councillor) new sacred places, particularly in urban areas," is one of the in the heart of the town since project's bullet-point aims.

You might think they would have no trouble in finding icons of our modern secular idolatries. How about a shrine at the legendary Mr Sifter's

shop where the Oasis songwriter Noel Gallagher bought music when he was 16? Or the King's Road where Kate Moss and other queens of the catwalk were first

spotted by fashion Manchester United's David locate sanctity in the innoceace surroundings". of childhood, the hridge in Ashdown Forest where Pooh sticks were invented.

This is not quite what they have in mind. At the launch of the Sacred Land project in Scotland last week the main ture giant MOA International ceremony took place in the interchangeably," Palmer

unemployment is high, shops are boarded up and the town centre is

Andrew Patterson (a former clergyman and spoke of the dereliction

changes in agriculture forced the closure of its two creameries producing worse social indicators than urban problem areas like Toxteth. The Lord Lieu-

6 How about a Edward shrine at the Ewing, read out a letter from Prince shop where Philip underscor-Noel Gallagher ing the close relationship between bought his religions and their attitude to conmusic? 9 servation. And the project's guiding light, Martin

scouts? Or the square foot of Palmer, insisted that in a place turf at Selhurst Park where like this "it isn't enough just to do an urban redevelopment Beckham scored from the half- plan; if it's sacred we walk way line on the first day of the more gently and are Godseason? Or, for those who guided in what we do to our Tigris, Euphrales or Nile hut

All of which sounds a hit metaphysical for a fairly simple redesign of the gardens at the centre of the square and its adjoining market cross. What was sacred about that?

"We use sacred and special



century stone inscriptions which suggest it may have survived as an outpost of Pelagian heretics. There, on a site which has been the focus of pilgrimage for 1600 years, Sacred Land is developing a Celtic

He has a point there. Whithorn has plenty of history. It is the site of the oldest monastery in the UK, on the Galloway peninsula where Christianity survived in an ancient form outside the jurisdiction of Roman Britain when that outpost of empire fell to the barbarian hordes. And it is living history. Its archaeologist, Peter Hill, has been only this month piecing together a new

something special happened

there. Places can be hallowed

by prayer like Canterbury,

which has nothing physically significant but is a place to

which people went to pray for

centuries. Or they can be inher-

ently sacred like the druidic

Silent Pool near Guildford, the

cave at Whithorn.

island of Iona or St Ninian's

monastic herbarium.

But it is half-an-hour's walk away, on the huge-pehhled foreshore of wide grey sea, that the true enchantment of Whithorn is to be found. At the Western extremity of the beach. the eye is incluctably drawn to the hlack mouth of the cave to which Ninian, the first bishop of the community, retreated for prayer. It stands at the foot of a huge gash in the rust-orange cliffside whose expanse is hrotheory from a reinterpretation ken only by the odd tenacious

fern and the pebbles placed in its crevices by pilgrims

- pehhles which, thanks to the peculiar geology of the region, can be found with veins of intruded rock which form the shape of a cross. But its power comes from its isolation, from its uninterrupted vista of the horizon across which the sun rises, and from a silence broken only by the hiss of the waves drawing back across the stones and the cries of the kittiwakes that wheel overhead.

By the side of it the plans for Wigtown seem paltry. Andrew Patterson seeks refuge in theology, quoting Martin Luther's line "Where is God not?" This is, after all, a man who when he was a minister once told daydreamers during one of his sermons that they would be "bet-ter in the pub thinking about

statue, Lindisfarne; the King's Road, Chelsea, haunt of the celebrity; and the hallowed Kop at Anfield the church than to be in the church thinking about the pub". But if God is to be found

> It is a Buddhist nun who supplies the answer. Despite her shaven head and her winecoloured habit, she introduces herself in a rich Highland hurr in the Munich air crash. For as Ani Lhamo, though she eventually reveals that her sulated in the music of Marc mother, after eight years as a Bolan the tree into which his nun, still calls her Edith. Her car crashed on Barnes common Tibetan lama, Yeshe Losal, from the Samye Ling Tibetan Buddhist Centre in Dumfries, had been speaking of another Sacred Land project - to build a Buddhist retreat centre on Holy Island, off Arran. He was drawn to the place by a "strong warm feeling" which he said emanated from a hermit, St Molaise, who had lived there in the 6th century. A place where a great person retrained their mind and hecame very pure, he explained, retains something

of them after they have gone. "Ultimately everywhere is sacred," added Ani. "It's just

hat we are so imperfect that we can't see it. So we needed to find a place like this, and each of us will need to find somewhere different." Such sacred places says Martin Palmer.

are signs that people have been grappling for thousands of years with the religious quest - and they have an dded importance for those who live in a secular world which dismisses such notions. They are places where we encounter something power-ful," says Palmer. "Today many people - including many in the Church - are afraid of powerful language. But we surrender our powerful places to New Agers and fancy dress special-

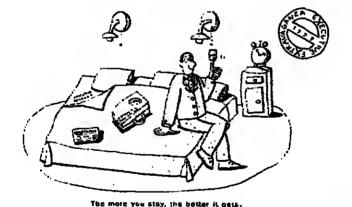
ists at our risk. Yet it is precisely to such romantic Aquarian nonsense that a project like Sacred Land is vulnerable. It is not helped by supporters who speak about "vibes and mega-vibes" or like the environmentalist David Bellamy, who talks of the sacred in terms of a "tingle" and says sacred places must have "an aura of peace and tranquillity, a sense of being safe". For the truly sacred must encompass not safety but attraction, dread and exhilaration beyond reason's grasp - what the ancients called the mysterium tremendum et fascinans.

In the sacred is a sense of the unpredictable and the notto-be-touched hut also a sense of empowerment. It is a place which enables change and sends the affected individual out to affect change elsewhere. It is the opposite of safe. It is precisely the sense of "I am not like this" which seizes the individual awed by the view from a mountain top or even by the power of a work of art. If it is a place where the veil between heaven and earth is particularly thin it is so because it enables us to sense new possibilities, to break step with our mundane realities and envisage something which tran-

Of course the numinous is subjective. Which is why some will reasonably hold as a sacred spot the clock at Old Trafford which stands, stopped, at the time the club's team perished those whose youth was encapdoes that, and the rest of us should not mock.

For others it might be the Kop at Liverpool or the Ahbey Road zehra crossing which interrupts the quotidian and opens that window into another world. Perhaps, even, it is not just metaphor to speak of the "hallowed wicket" at Lord's in homage of that game which the English, not heing a spiritual people, invented in order to give themselves some conception of eternity.

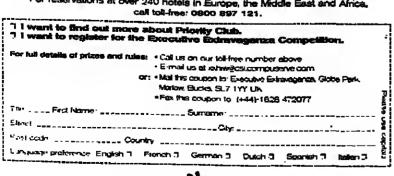
But in Wigtown, by the market cross? Perhaps Andrew Patterson knows something the



### Add some sparkle to your business trips.

Our Executive Extravogence has been adding a bit of sparkle to our guests' business trips for some time now, it's also been adding a number of spectacular benefits to the privileges you enjoy as a Priority Club member. After just 3 stays, you can earn 400 bonus points (often doubling the usual amount) and use them for an Executive Bedroom upgrade. If you're a keen collector, you could enjoy a weekend night for two at many of our hotels for only 1200 Priority Club points. Our Executive E-travaganza runs until 15 September 1997, so there's still time for you to enter our competition. You'll receive an instant souvenir and perhaps earn one or two of the hundreds of exciting prizes. The Grand prize is a week of family fun in Hollywood. During Executive Extraveganza, you'll enjoy a lot more than a warm welcome and a comfortable room, every time you stop over at Holiday inn.

For reservations at over 240 hotels in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, call toll-free: 0800 897 121.



8 MONTHS OF CHALLENGE AND SPECTACULAR PRIZES

We in Britain like to have Aunt Sallys. We like to have convenient targets for our contempt. Comedians, especially, like to have convenient targets for contempt. They like to make jokes about mothers-in-law. and Scunthorpe, and British Rail sandwiches, and French plumbing, and Simon Dee...

But everything changes, even Aunt Sallys, though I didn't know this when I was a lad. When I was a lad. you . could have predicted that British rail sandwiches would be laughed at for ever. "As limp as a British Rail sandwich." "Is he dead, Inspector?" "As dead as a British Rail ham sandwich, Sergeant." Phrases like this were thought to be funny enough never to die, and the men who made them could oot have predicted that one day two amazing things would happen: one, that the sandwiches on railway trains would become very good, and two, that British Rail

would cease to exist. This, in itself, is not enough to stop the British treating British Rail sandwiches as an Aunt Sally. The British love their Aunt Sallys so much that reality has very little impact on them. We still think that French lavatories

are primitive, despite the fact that the superious which represent the cream of our sanitary sanctums are a French import. We still think that Scunthorpe is a byword for duliness, despite Private Eye's valiant effort to replace it with Neasden, and despite the fact that none of us has ever been to Saunthorpe. In the teeth of all the evidence, we still think that mothers inlaw are tyrants, and that Scotsmen are mean, and that trains are stopped by leaves on the line, that phones are plagued by crossed lines, that The Guardian is full of

misprints.
That was an interesting Aunt Sally, the idea that The Guardian led the world in misprints, because it was a quite modern Aunt Sally, and quite localised, limited to middle-class media folk - oot the sort of joke you'd hear made much outside London. But the perception that the paper was full of misprints was very widespread in the media milieu, partly because it was funny and because for a while it was true. I can remember a startling example of it in real life. Philip Hope-Wallace, a Guardian columnist, had a plaque unveiled to him in El

Vino's wine bar in Fleet

Street, above the chair where



Miles Kington

so often sat. He was flattered but objected mildly to the management that they had spelt his name wrong on the laque - Phillip instead of

"Impossible!" said the management. "Why, we even checked the spelling with The Guardian!"

The myth was so widespread that The Guardian became wittily known as the "Grauniad". Whether because of this reputation or not, I do not know, but the paper is now pretty free from misprints and as well proof-read as any paper I know. This may be all right for The Guardian, hut it is unfair on those of us who need an Aunt Sally for -

You can rely on 'Radio Times' to get it wrong we can refer jocularly as a byword for spelling mistakes. In the absence of any

other candidate I would like to nominate the Radio Times. The immediate reason for this is personal, in that the RT recently spelt my name as Miles Kingston. But this is not an isolated

case. Stung by my own misfortune, I have started

keeping a sharp eye on the Radio Times and have noticed some very odd errors in this once fine organ. Not so long ago they printed the name Harry Carpenter when they clearly meant Homphrey Carpenter. They referred to Reggie Nadelson as "he" when "he" is actually a woman. They brought us a film starring a man called Kevin Kilne, though I think they actually meant Kevin Kline. And last week they told us that one of the guests on Radio 4's The News Quiz would be Francis Whelan. In fact, it turned out to be Francis Wheen Was on the programme again this week. But in the Radio Times he was listed as Francis Whelan yet again. The old

two weeks running.

Even BBC announcers are

being misled by the Radio Times. The other night there was an edition of Jazz Notes on Radio 3 at the usual barbarous time of 0030, which I listened to because I happened to be up late that night, and because it promised a review of recent records by the interesting musician Deirdre Cartwright.

"In a few minutes we'll be getting Deirdre Cartwright's round-up of new records." said the announcer, before playing a short Satie piece to fill the gap. "Well," said presenter

Digby Fairweather a few minutes later, "the Radio Times billing promised you a visit from Deirdre Cartwright, but we have had to postpone that because we are bringing you a concert from Birmingham."

So the Radio Times got it wrong. Pair enough. The Radio Times gets things wrong. What was amazing was that the Radio 3 announcer also got it wrong only two minutes before the programme and had no idea what was coming next.

A great error. If you spot any misprints in getting the same name wrong the "Radio Times", they will

اعكذا من الأصل

He must have been reading the Radio Times. "Grauniad" in its heyday would have been proud of

find a good home in this

# A few tips if we take Cook's tour

A reliable guide on the racecourse and pragmatic over Europe, the shadow Foreign Secretary is renowned for always doing his homework, says **Donald Macintyre** 

inda de

Control to State 2

· Working page

Pharmach

1000

Marita Say Section .

4-6155

Charles WAY

or Application

 $(\ldots, d))_{2k_{Q^{k}}}$ 

ohn McCrinick is on the stage of the night club at Livingston foot-ball club's stadium outside Edinburgh, smoking a torpedo-size cigar and doing his old friend Robin Cook proud: "I don't know how you do it Robin. It sickens me to my gut. I'm jealous. Just how do you do it?" This is high praise. Racing's most famous television personality isn't talking about Cook's parliameotary skills, or his dissection of the Scott report, or his ability to remain his own man in a party increasingly famous for its inter-nal discipline. He's talking about Cook's taleots as a racing tipster, on display each Sat-urday in Glasgow's Herald.

As one of the country's most unlikely celebrity converts to Labour, McCririck has

come to the shadow Foreign Secretary's constituency to lend him his support. An old Harrovian of pronounced right-wing views, McCririck has been converted entirely by the affection he has for his fellow racing fanatic, This is odd, since Cook is unmistakahly to the left of Tony Blair, McCririck explains over dinner, before the two men appear on a panel to discuss the following day's Scottish Grand National, that he has been particularly cheered by how "you ruled out a single currency in the next parliament". Never mind that Cook didn't quite

At one point, even Cook looks a trifle anxious as McCririck suddenly risks the wrath of some members of his young audicoce by launching an extravagent denunciation of the Scottish National Party, the main challenger to Labour in Cook's Livingstoo constituency. "What party with the word 'national' in it has ever done anything for anyone? Look at them: the British witted young man. "The jury's still out on them." McCririck shouts back, unfazed.

The following day he will point out, in an interview with Cook on Channel Four's racing programme, that Cook's Graod: National tip. Sister Stephanie, proved a lemon. She was 4-1 favourite but unscated



think he would be a pushover

among fellow foreign ministers

you. At a motorway comes factory in marginal Bury, he is delighted to find that 80 percent of comes on the German Autobahn seems baffled that anyone should think that,

A racing certainty for Foreign Secretary? Robin Cook with the television horse-racing pundit John McCririck

her jockey early in the race, losing The Independent £10 in the process. But Cook's other tips came home: Sparky Gayle in the 2.55 at Ayr, and in the 3.25 - how could be not have punted it? - Shadow Leader?

So we now know his interest in horses is taken seriously by the professionals. It started 15 years ago when he, his wife and his two children, surrounded by equestrians at their favourite holiday spot in the New Forest, decided that if you can't beat them, join them. You're as likely to see a picture of Cook on horseback in Scottish Farmer as his mugshot in Tribune.

And he hopes to keep his racing column after the election.

In Manchester oo Friday, baving completed a taxing TV interview on Labour's European policy, and with a plane to catch, he sat down with his form guide in a BBC office for 20 minutes while Gary Titley, the National Party, the National Front, the local MEP obligingly read out the Ayr run-National Socialists ..." "What about the new from Ceelax, lest Cook and the conference of t referring to a horse that wasn't running.

Typical. Cook never neglects his homework. It is one reason he rarely makes gaffes. (In a tribute to one he did make predicting that Labour would win big in breach of the "no complacency" edict - he is now given to announcing himself wickedly

oo the telephone to his old sparring part-ner thus: "Helio Mandelson, Landslide here.") He admits he is a hit of a swot, and can't resist mildly upbraiding a leading member of the Prestwich Jewish community for using an "oxymoron".

Cook clearly enjoys the rich picture of Britain a well-organised election tour gives

are made here. Discovering that the Department of Trade had been forced to

intervene to force the Germans to stop

blocking imports of the cones, he said: "You see. That shows why a veto can be against

British interests." If the Germans could not

be overruled by majority voting to enforce

the single market, the exports wouldn't even

happen. Within minutes he is locidly

explaining all this in an interview with the

So how Euro-sceptic is the Shadow Cabinet's leading Euro-sceptic? His reservations - almost entirely on economic grounds about the single currency, and its potentially deflationary implications, are deep

with his pugilistic political reputation, he should be a pushover among his fellow for-

eign ministers. On the other, he is a prag-

matisf about getting the best out of Europe. Being Scottish may help: Scots can't, by definition, be little Englanders. He has

restrained some of his more election-

blinded colleagues from going even further

down the Tory Europhobic road.

and continuing. But on the European He is baffled that anyone should

Photograph: Sporting Life

There is one further point. Last summer Cook pointed out at Chatham House that eight of the 15 EU states had governments led by sister social democratoc parties. Far from joining Jacques Chirac and Helmut Kohl in a ménage à trois, a Labour government might prefer to put itself, as the EU's third hig power, at the head of countries anxious to curb the dominance of the Franco-German axis. At the time that seemed a heresy. More receotly Blair has been suggesting that his government might after all be an effective counterweight to Bonn, There is certainly no doubt that Blair consults him.
But abroad is for later, This is an election,

and Cook is clearly a believer in the great Irish-American Tip O'Neill's famous dictum that "all politics is local". Given that he has a majority of 8,448, he takes remarkably good care of his constituency. This allegedly unclubbable man is gregariously at home here in a way he clearly isn't in the Com-mons tea room. In Broxburn—a ward which used to he in the old West Lothian constituency, represented by Tam Dalyell -Cook tells a story of which Tip O'Neill would have approved. One day the chairman of the Browburn hranch came down to Westmin ster for the first time and Dalyell introduced him to the then elderly Manny Shinwell, who

had held the seat in the early 1930s. Instead of reminiscing aimably with the local man. Shinwell rounded on him trascibly for his loss of the seat. "It was the Broxburn boxes which let me down in "35," the old man com-plained. "If Broxburn had voted for me, I would have been the MP. And if I'd been the MP, I would have become leader of the party instead of Attlee."

Is working-class support holding up in the Scottish heartland? One Labour couocillor, out of Cook's earshot, says some people do say on the doorstep: "We'll vote for Robin Cook right enough but ..."
But what? That they're not so keen on Blair? "I didn't say that, you did," he replies. Cook himself dismisses the idea that traditional Labour supporters will defect to the SNP because the party is too right wing. They want the Tories out too much. Livingston provides a vivid sense of the two elections taking place: the West-minster, Europe-obsessed campaign, and the hread-and-butter one which is being waged oo the doorsteps. Cook has even been told by one councillor that his national profile was helpful when he was the health spokesman in 1992 but that "it doesn't make so much difference now you have been sidelined to doing Europe

Sidelined he isn't. But how will Cook function in a Blair cabinet? He won't say so, but he is certainly conscious that his left-wing credeotials are as useful to Blair as they are to him. Conversely, if there was a revolt by intellectuals and peasants against a Blair government that had failed to fulfil its promise, it isn't difficult to imagine Cook at its head. Whatever Cook really thinks about his old opponent, Gordon Brown's ultraaustere spending totals, he is a canny, grown-up politician. He is conscious of how in 1974 Labour spent first -- and paid later. Cook at least shares Brown's belief that this is the wrong way round.

He still refuses, having been converted away from ano-devolutionism by the outcome of the 1983 election, to rule out the possibility of forsaking Westminster in the future and going to Edinburgh as a mem-ber of the Scottish parliament. He himself says it would be "presumptuous" to think he would be Scotland's prime minister if he did. He agrees that until he took his present job three years ago he wasn't a foreign affairs specialist. But no one would say since then - an authende Cookism, this - "that I haven't applied myself to it".

The Foreign Office would give him, because of the central importance of Europe to domestic policy, an important entrée across the board of Cabinet policymaking. Sir John Coles, the Permanent Secretary, recently told him he had never known as crowded an internadonal agenda as the UK faces over the next 18 mooths: the IGC in Amsterdam, the British EU and G7 presidencies, Hong Kong, EMU.

As Cook puts it: "It would be rather odd to be offered the world and say you'll have to go away and think about it.

# Powerful beyond words



IL WYOR

Whittam Smith

From Vietnam to Bosnia, Rwanda to China, it is the

photojournalist who preserves the decisive moments of history

he study by two photographers. Tom Stoddart and Alastair Thain, of Sarajevo under siege provides the most effective exhibition of photojournalism I have ever seen. It can be found at the Royal Festival Hall, London. under the little Edge of Madness. The phrase is taken from

General Ratko Mladic's exhortation to the Serbian forces looking down on the city from the surrounding hills: "Shoot at slow intervals until I order you to stop. Shell them uotil they can't sleep, don't stop until they are on the edge of

At the show we do not actually see exploding shells and bloodshed, though they were ever-present during Sarajevo's 1.000-day ordeai.

Instead the photographers have covered daily life during the siege. How people had to dodge bullets as they hunted for water, food and fuel, and even as they buried their dead. How Sarajevo's citizens kept going when their homes were shaltered or they were disabled by

We gaze not upon soldiers loading their guns or crouched to trenches, or upon the wounded being rushed away on stretchers, but on middle-aged women, dressed as for a visit to the local shops which no longer exist, clasping their bags tightly to them, running across streets where enemy snipers are at work. Some half-smile as if they are reflecting upon the absurdity rather than the horror of civil war.

In this way, photojournalism makes its unique contribution to the record. It captures the decisive momeots as events unfold and holds them for all

This is different from the role of television news, powerful as n is. Nobody will look at old television footage of the Sarajevo siege, even if they could get hold of it, to find out what hap pened, but they will examine the newspaper cuttings or news

pictures of the period.

The notion of the decisive moment is the key to understanding the power of photojournalism. Henri Cartier-Bresson, perhaps the finest



photojournalist of all, used to quote a phrase of Cardinal de Retz: "There is nothing in this world which does not have a decisive moment." For Cartier-Bresson the important thing was to choose from the flow of images which strike the eye

and seize the telling one. But in the fraction of a second, the time span in which the news photographer habitually works, there is a further, equally onerous requirement: to compose the picture, to work with what Cartier-Bresson called the rhythm of surfaces, of lines and

He said it was putting one's head, one's eye and one's heart stick. on the same axis. This gives the image its intensity, its emotional force.

The centre-piece of the exhibioon is a series of pictures of people having to cross an important road in the middle of Sarajevo, a main artery of the city, which was riddled with-

sniper fire. What do we see? A father running with an infant son in his arms, giving a rueful grin to the photographer as he passes, his

up. Rushing the other way, a few frames later, is a young girl carrying what must he her favourite doll. There is the woman pushing a trolley-load of water containers in front of her as she hastens along. Water is heavy! You wonder whether

she made it. Two women cross the danger zone at a fast walk, arm in arm, the one resolute, the other trembling with uncontrollable fear. And a Bosnian soldier guides a blind man across the deadly street, both especially vulnerable, the soldier in his uniform, the blind man with his

There are also two pictures which convey joy in the midst of tragedy. In one, a mother with both legs amputated squats on a low stool with her skirt tucked under her stumps, and cheerfully greets her young daughter eagerly running towards her. In the other a blind, deaf woman, raped during the war, holds her baby in her arms; both of them

are ecstatically happy. The show has an extra significance for me. It makes the pose the picture: this is the

case for photojournalism as an activity when it too is at the

As compared with the situation five years ago, there are far fewer newspapers and maga-zines interested in reportage. Partly this is because there are no great dramas which grip the imaginacion nowadays, as did the collapse of Communism in Eastern Europe, or student protest in China culminating with Tiananmen Square, or the ending of white rule in South

Tragic events in Afghanistan or Rwanda are only momentarily interesting. Moreover, in the minds of too many publishers and editors, photojournalism has become associated exclusively with grim blackand-white pictures, with death and destruction.

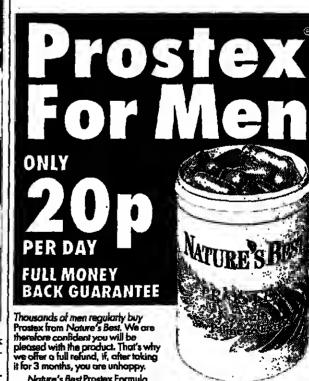
Indeed its power to shock has been weakened by the repetition of a particular kind of image. But this is to assign a limited role to photojournalism. It can tell a story in its own way in a wide range of situations. Seize the image and com-

point of Cardinal Retz's remark about everything having a decisive moment. The Independent, for exam-

ple, has published some wonderful photographs from general election campaigns. Last week Mrs Thatcher went back to the very site where, 10 years ago, the newspaper pho-tographed her walking alone across an area of derelict scruhland on Teesside, with her back to the camera, her black coat and handbag silhonetted against the long grass and weeds. It powerfully illustrated how Conservative economic policy was seen at the

Is that why the former Prime Minister returned, now that the site has been redeveloped? Photojournalism has such power. It conveys aspects of a story which words cannot reach. It speaks directly to the heart rather than to the head.

And it makes an essectial contribution to what journalism is often said to be: the first rough draft of history. That is



The first draft of history: this picture of children running from a napalm attack on their village shocked the world and symbolised the horror of the Vietnam war

Photograph: Nick Ut/AP

Nature's Best Prostex Formula contains a particular combination of substances to provide nutritional support for the prostate.

is that it contains berries from the Saw Palmetto, together with certain vitamins, minerals and amino acid: Prostex is one of over 160 products in the Nature's Best range of nutrifional supplements. We manufacture most of our range

saving costs and passing the savings onto you. Orders normally despatched within 24 hours of receipt.

ourselves and sell direct to you

3 MONTH'S SUPPLY FOR ONLY £16.90 What makes our product unique 🕿 01892 552150

Nature's Best Health Products Lid 1 Lambert's Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 3EQ

indi ici ici ici indi

	Please send me 3 months' supply of i (plus £1 to cover post and order pro- made payable to Nature's Best Heal or please debit my Mastercard/Visa	Presser at the introductory price of £16 cessing), i enclose a cheque/PO for £ th Products Ltd. or Switch/Delta	.90 17.90
	Card no		
	Expiry Date	Switch/Delta Issue Date/	
,	Registered in England No. 1518391	Postcode	_
•			W.U.

# business & city

BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

Prospect of G7 intervention sends dollar into reverse

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

The currency markets went into reverse yesterday, sending the dollar lower and the German mark higher. The triggers were the possibility of official intervention to balt the dollar's two-year rise following next weekend's meeting of Group of Seven (G7) ministers, and the political uncertainty resulting from the prospect of early French elections.

Recent currency swings will be on the agenda at the G7 meeting due in Washington this weekend as both German and Japanese officials have indicated that they think the US currency has climbed far enough.

It has gained about 10 per cent against the mark and almost as much against the yen so far this year, despite an attempt by the G7 in February to talk it lower.

"We are interested in the mark remaining a strong cur-rency," Hans Tietmeyer, Bundesbank President, said at the weekend. Yesterday Eisuke Sakakibara of Japan's Finance Ministry added his weight by warning that it would be dangerous to assume Japan would not raise interest rates to defend

The dollar was likely to remain weak ahead of the G7 meeting on Saturday, analysts

The German currency was

also boosted by the news of early French elections. President Chirac's decision was interpreted as an admission that additional austerity measures will be needed if the government budget deficit is to be reduced by enough to meet the Maas-

"it suggests the French government thinks there will be a need for more unpopular measures to cut spending," said Stephen King, an economist at James Capel

New European Commission economic forecasts, due tomorrow, are expected to show France and Germany scraping under the 3 per cent of GDP ceiling. But the financial markets will take these with a pinch



of salt, given the Commission's istic assessment. The six leading economics institutes in Gerthe single currency.

pected to provide a more real-

Jan - Peh - Mar



ing economics institutes in Gerne single currency. many will today publish a report putting the 1997 budget deficit

The half-year economic outlook from the International Monetary Fund on Thursday is reported to be critical of the measures the Italian government has taken to trim its deficit, saying there has been less structural reform than necessary and too many one-off

The result of all these factors has been one of the market's periodic reassessments of the ikelihood of European monetary union going ahead on time. Every time the prohability seems to recede a little, the mark gets a boost against other European currencies.

"Politics are creeping back in sentiment," said Michael Lewis

at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. The last effective G7 intervention to turn around currency trends came two years ago. At their meeting in April 1995, ministers agreed to halt the dol-lar's slide, and it subsequently climbed back from its post-war lows of ¥79.75 and DM1.3693. It has gained more than 50 per

cent against the yen and more than 25 per cent against the mark during the past two years.
"It is not clear that the Japanese should be unhappy about this because it has helped the exporters, but they want to be seen to be saying the right thing. It's a game of trade politics," said Nigel Richardson, an analyst at the Japanese bank

Although Japan's trade sur-plus fell in March, the politically sensitive bilateral surplus with the US rose by 11.2 per cent to ¥379.83ba, the sixth monthly in-

crease in a row. Even so, the fact that the markets think that the dollar's current exchange rate against the yen is probably about right sug gests that a G7 statement will not have a dramatic effect - any more than February's statement that the dollar's earlier misalignment had been

The dollar dipped from ¥125.85 to as low as ¥125.15 and from DM1.7113 to corrected. DM1.7020 in London yesterday. The pound fell nearly a pfennig to DM2.7831.

**GrandMet** 

disposal

cooks up

charge

of £39m

Grand Metropolitan is selling its Aunt Nellie's Farm Kitchens division to Seneca Foods for around £15m, hut the disposal

will result in a £39m exceptional

Despite the hit from the dis-

posal. GrandMet's shares gained 8.5p to a five-year high

of 508.5p, as analysts continued

to favour the change in strategy

under George Bull, Grand

Met's chairman, and John Mc-

Aunt Nellie's, hased in Wis-

consin, US. is a glass-jar fruit

and vegetable business operating three plants. GrandMet said £28m of the £39m write-off

related to goodwill previously written off. "The £39m will be

taken in the half-year results to

be announced on 15 May,

Grand Met said. Part of its Pillsbury Company

unit, Aunt Nellie's employed 280 people and its 1996 sales were around \$50m (£31m) and

the business had broken even.

executive said the sale would

improve its return on capital as

egy to exit low-return busi-

part of a series of recent posi-

tive announcements from GrandMet. "The market likes

the continuing good news on the spirits front," said Geof Colly-er of NatWest Markets. "For the last five years all we have seen

is downgrades in the spirits

market, but that seems to have

come to an end. A lot of peo-

ple are expecting GrandMet's

results in a few weeks' time to

Another analyst, who de-

clined to be named, said: "Sen-

justify [that impression]."

Analysts said it was just one

2 - 18 A

- No.

Ber trest

e en en <del>e</del> en en ve

 $\lambda := \varphi_{\Delta}$ 

er er eige er i er jer.

يرقع أقرار

Paul Walsh, Pillsbury's chief

Grath, chief executive.

lohn Willcock

Andrew Regan and colleague pictured secretly meeting Co-op executive in a Buckinghamshire hotel car park

# Co-op threatens to call in SFO over offshore payment

doubt on the validity of the pay-

ment yesterday. It issued a state-

ment saying: "Contrary to recent press reports, SBC Warbung con-firmed today that Swiss Bank Cor-poration did not 'clear' a payment made to Tirellis International by Hobor ple in James v. 1995."

Hobson plc in January 1995." SBC said it was informed of

the extension to the supply agreement in January 1995

"but not of the payment to Trel-lis". The hank said it was not in-

formed about the payment until March of that year. It said it re-

signed as financial adviser to

Hobson "shortly thereafter."

The Warburg statement con-tradicts a version made by the

simple and

straightforward

questions which

call for simple

answers 9-CWS

Regan camp at the weekend

Nigel Cope City Correspondent

The Co-op turned up the heat on Andrew Regan's Lanica Trust yesterday when it threatened to call in the Serious Fraud Office unless it received answers to several questions relating to a £2m payment to a Cayman Islands company.

The threat comes as Mr Regan prepares to deliver sensitive Co-op documents to the High Court today as he attempts to launch his £1.2bn bid for the whole society including the Co-op bank, the funeral parlours and the supermarkets.

In a letter sent to Mr Regan by Graham Melmoth, the CWS chief executive, Mr Mehnoth casts doubt on Lanica's explanation that a £2m payment to Ronald Zimet of Trellis International in 1995 was made for assistance in negotiating an extension of a deal between the CWS and Hobson, a food company controlled by Mr Regan.

it says dour Allan Green and David Chambers, the two suspended CWS managers responsible for the deal, have said they knew nothing about Trellis or Mr Zimet. They have told the CWS that negotiations between the two companies had been conducted directly with Mr Regan with no use of a middle man.

The letter states: "If the "Trellis role" was fully disclosed at the time, presumably you will have no difficulty in telling me what [Mr Zemit's] role was, why you were prepared to pay in excess of £2m for it and who at the Co-op was told about it."

It closes: "These are simple and straightforward questions which call for simple and straightforward answers. If these do not reach us by close of business tomorrow [today] arrangements will be made to see representatives of the Serious Fraud Office." SBC Warburg, Hobson's for-

when it claimed Warburg's had heen aware of the payment and approved it. The bank said yesterday that it resigned shortly after learning about the payment. Separately KPMG, the ac-

countancy firm that was Hobson's auditors said it only signed off the company's accounts following assurances from both Mr Regan and his fellow director David Lyons, that everything was in order. It said that if that assurance had not been forthcoming it would have to had qualified the accounts.

The issue is complicated by the fact that some of the advisers who were working with Mr Regan at the time of the Hobson deal, are now representing

viser who worked on Mr Regan's affairs while at Swiss Bank is now representing the CWS at the merged SBC Warburg. Another connection is that

KPMG, former auditor to Hobson, is also anditor to the CWS. Furthermore it is KPMG that is working on the investigation of business dealings between Mr Green, Mr Chambers and Andrew Regan, KPMG also dismissed any suggestion of conflict on interests. "We don't believe that is the case. The forensic accounting team conducting the investigation is run out of Manchester. The audit team at Hobson was run out of London. The Chinese walls are in place."

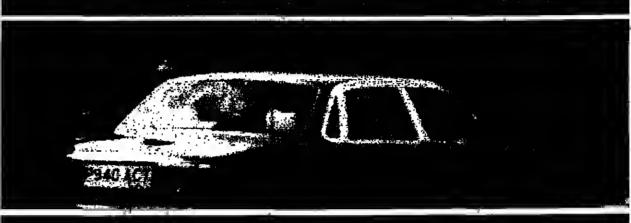
SBC Warburg said it did not have details on who Trellis In-ternational or Mr Zemit were or what the payment was for. Though Mr Zemit has been described by the Lanica camp as a UK-based businessman, records filed at Companies House show he has no UK directorships.

As the hid battle beca even more intense, CWS chairman Lennox Pyfe repeated that none of the society's assets were for sale. "I'm aware of what people in the society are saying. I haven't spoken to a single per-son who supports Mr Regan." The display of a united front

came as it emerged that Mr Regan has missed the deadline for calling a special meeting to discuss his proposals before the CWS agm on 17 May. The deadline passed on Friday.

Mr Regan is expected to comply with a court order demanding that he return sensitive Co-op documents to the court and say how they were planned to be used. If he can prove he is not using confidential information, Mr Regan is expected to go ahead with this audacious £1.2bn break-up bid for the CWS. It could come later this week.







Andrew Regan (top picture, right) and David Lyons, his right-hand man, shown on Sunday 13 April standing by Allan Green's Co-op registered Jaguar. Middle picture: Mr Lyons Joins the Co-op's controller of retail operations and Mr Regan in the car, parked by the Bellhouse Hotel, Beaconsfield. Bottom: Mr Lyons about to depart 55 minutes later in his Porsche

# Group denies it bugged Regan

Control Risks, the security and surveillance group hired by the Co-op to help fend off the attentions of Andrew Regan, has denied that it bugged telephones in Mr Regan's home or attached monitoring devices to his wife's car, writes Nigel Cope. "That is not the kind of thing we do," a spokesman said. "We

would not undertake surveillance exercises ourselves, we would use some one else. But we did not hire anyone for this purk. pose either." The company said Comment, page 21 that if there was a bugging organisations in its field. It was has said that, during the Cold

operation, it would like to know originally established to mediwho was responsible.

It is already known that the

Co-operative Wholesale Society hired Control Risks for week with the arrangement ending last Friday. The work included filming Allan Green, the CWS former controller of retailing, handing documents to Andrew Regan in a Beaconsfield car

Founded in 1975 by four former SAS officers, Control

Saatchi takeover fever as Cordiant splits

ate in kidnappings and extor-tion and it still handles around 30 abduction cases per month. But its work has become more diverse recently and has included handling the security arrangements of the female competitors at the Wimbledon tennis championships.

Another key area of work is assisting companies that are op-erating or looking to operate in potentially difficult markets

War, companies used to pull out of Russia if there was a mafia connection. However, some organisations now feel that they cannot function properly without such a connection.

With a staff of 2,000 drawn from military, diplomatic, police and accountancy backgrounds, the Control Risks board has included two former Metropolitan Police Commissioners. It has offices in 10 countries and claims to have worked for more than 3,400 clients in 120 countries.

"Frankly we do not see it that

way. Both are robust companies are perfectly capable of stand-

ing on their own." But he ad-

mitted pre-emption rights over

Zenith had not been decided.

An extraordinary general meeting will be called in Octo-

ber to consider formal approval

to Cordiant's demerger pro-

If it is given the go-ahead,

shares in the two companies

could be listed in December.

timent has been relatively positive and it is really just follow-through from that." Shares in the Smirnov vodka to Burger King group rose at one point to 509.5p - their highest since June 1992. At yesterday's high the stock was 🤚

est close of the year of 429p set on 15 January. Last week Merrill Lynch repeated a "huy" recommendation on the stock, noting a longer-term chart objective of 650p, while other brokers have recently said that they favoured GrandMet over Allied Domecq.

some 19 per cent above its low-

In the 1990s the spirits division has reported growth of profits, volumes and invest-ment in advertising faster than the competition. This is likely to enable GrandMet to outperform rivals over the next three years, analysts say.

Burger King, Pillsbury baked foods and IDV are outperforming their rivals, which has ould be listed in December.

Investment column, page 22 prompted a clutch of "huy"

### Cordiant's deconstructed empire SAATCHI & SAATCHI ADVERTISING WORLDWIDE Chief executive officer: Michael tevenue: £360m Employees: 4,400

STOCK MARKETS

+18.20 +0.4

+0.50 +0.0

+7.20 +0.3

+6.47 +0.3

6713.99 +10.44 +0.2

18551.66 +199.52 +1.1

2128.70

TSE SmallCap 2295.65

Main clients: DuPont, Proceer & Gamble, Toyota

BATES GROUP Revenue: £376m Employees: 5,200

Main clients: Avis, BAT, Hyundel Mein autieldiaries: Schotz & Friends (Hamburg), Rowland Worldwide (New York), National Research Group(Los Angeles) ZENTH MEDIA WORLDWIDE Employees: (n/a)

# Terry Macalister

Day's change Glamps(%) 1996/97 high 1996/97 Law Yield(%)

4444.30 4056.60 3.73

4729.40 4489.40 3.55

2194.30 2017.90 3.69

2374.20 2178.29 3.04

19446.00 17303.65 0.87†

13868.24 12055.17 3.37†

Source: FT Information

3460.59 2848.77 1.60t

Main clients: BMW, Bell Atlantic.

planned to "unlock the potential" of the media services company by floating Saatchi & hrothers, cannot work together.

# Takeover fever surrounded the

Saatchi & Saatchi advertising agency last night following the announcement of plans by par-ent, Cordiant, to break itself into two separately quoted compa-

Cordiant's share price rose 5.5p to 135.5p after Charlie Scott, chairman, said that he

Saatchi and the Bates Group, its marketing business, in London and New York. A third subsidiary, Zenith,

would be independently man-aged but owned 50/50 by Bates and Saatchi. The Saatchi company will he run hy Bob Seelert. Cordiant's chief executive. Company insiders admit the demerger is a tacit acceptance that two hitter rival firms, hrought together under one roof by the founding Saatchi

Mr Scott said the break-up would increase motivation among managers and open new areas of business, 10 per cent in the case of Bates, which had been closed by clients' conflict

He added: "We believe demerger more closely aligns the interests of management with shareholders. The initial response from our major investors has been enthusiastic without exception."

But rivals said the company

### be putting the [acquisition] slide rule over these new com-Lorna Tilbian, media analysi with Panmure Gordon, agreed: "Bates will be a takeover target

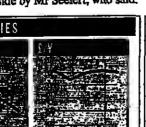
had in effect hoisted a white flag

over a business that had run out

of ideas. One said: "We will all

and Cordiant has realised that they can get more out of it that way than as part of the group or as a disposal." This speculation was brushed

aside by Mr Seelert, who said:



# INTEREST RATES

		r				
loney Mar icx	tet Rates t Houth	t Year	Bond Yields *	Year Ago	Long Bond	(Xi)Yeer Ag
JK	6.03	6,97	7.57	8,02	7,66	8.11
<b>IS</b>	5,59	6.28	6.84	6 53	7.07	6.80
<u>kapan</u>	0.53	0.75	2.15	3 30		•
iemany Budmari	3.09	_3.38_	5.89	6.38	5,68	•

Micros Charge (s) Charges Falls 14 4.3 Telewest Comms 88.5 7.5 7.8 Assocd Brt Ports 260.5 Hantsons&Costd 123 12 4.4 3 2.4

£ (1,000000) 0.6117 unch 0.6589 \$ (London) 1.6348 +0.35c 1.5177 F (N York)# 0.6112 -0.11 0.6592 \$\_(N\_Y0/K)\$ 1.6360 +0.6c 1.5170 DM (London) 1.7023 -1.39pf 1.5057 Y (London) 205.217 -Y0.286 162.338 Y (London) 125.530 -Y0.445 106.965 105.4 unch 96.4 -0.3 83.9 \$ Index

Testuring Buy's che Year Ago below Latest Trilge Heatings Oil Brent \$ 18.20 +0.35 18.59 RPI 155.4+2.6pc 150.9 15 May 342.55 +0.85 390.60 GDP 109.7+2.6pc 107.0 209.54 +0.08 257.36 Base Rates - 6.00pc 6.75 109.7+2.6pc 107.0 25 Apr

# **MEPC** moves to cut high interest costs

**Magnus Grimond** 

MEPC, the property group which recently ended merger talks with rival Hammerson. yesterday took a further step towards putting its house in order by cutting the high interest costs taken on at the height of the 1980s boom.

Spurred by the appointment of James Dundas as finance director last month, the group has cancelled expensive interest rate swaps covering all its debt m a move which will result in an exceptional charge of £73m in this year's figures.

Despite a pledge by the company to hold the dividend at 20p for 1996-97, the shares fell 2p to 457p yesterday as analysts cut their net asset value forecasts by around 10p to 483p for the 12 months ending in September.

Unwinding the swaps will reduce the amount of fixed-rate debt on MEPC's balance sheet to 60 per cent and provide a "cap and collar" arrangement on another £200m. It is expected to save £19m in 1998. falling to £16m the following year, with continuing benefits up to the year 2010.

المكذا من الأصل

business

COMMENT

hard-pressed to find

support another bout

You would be

anyone willing to

THE PROPERTY NAMED AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY NAMED AND ADDRESS  $\sigma_{URNM_{\rm c}}$ LAR

disposal

cooksu

charge

Astro Williarch

# Go-it alone Cordiant rediscovers an old truth

صكدا من الأصل

trips to Conservative Party Central Office, where he is advising the Prime Minister on election strategy and advertising. With its demerger amouncement yesterday, Cordiant, Maurice Saatchi's former company, has all but run up the white flag, in effect admitting that it is unequal to the task of re-grouping and reinventing itself after the traumas of the last five years.

This is strongly denied by the present Cordiant chairman, Charlie Scott, who rightly points out that the group is achieving the targets it set itself at the time of its 1995 rights issue. None the less, it is hard to avoid the comparison with WPP, which after a period of vaulting amhition and hubris not dissimilar to that of the former Saatchi & Saatchi suffered the same near-nemesis. Unlike sintered the same near-nemesis. Unlike Lord Saatchi, however, its creator and guiding light, Martin Sorrell, managed to survive, if only by the skin of his teeth, and he has restored the advertising giant to rude health. The same cannot be said of Cordiant, which has struggled to stay affoat since Lord Saatchi described the

Saatchi deserted ship taking some of the company's best talent with him. Now it seems to be throwing in the towel altogether, the attempt to find a cohesive approach and culture in effect abandoned for good.

Lord Saatchi may be able to take some satisfaction in what has happened, but thereshould in fact be no shame or criticism attached to what Cordiant is doing. This is and putting its businesses on the right footing for the future.

Demergers most often take place in com-panies with starkly different businesses. It is unusual to see a company all of whose inter-ests are in the same business splitting itself in two. But advertising is different, a peo-ple business made up of big egos and volatile temperaments encompassing a wide number of successful formulas, most of which don't mix terribly well.

In fact there are few advertising businesses organised as holding companies that man-age to achieve a unified approach and culture. Certainly there is little value the holding company structure can add to the work its agencies are already doing on behalf of clients. In any case, Saatchi & Saatchi, Bates and Zenith always were very different sorts of company and they never lived hap-pily together. Bates has found the association with Saatchi's positively restrictive, raising conflicts of interest that prevent it

competing for an estimated 10 per cent of the world advertising market. There is every reason to helieve both Bates and Saatchi's will function better alone than together. But those who think it will also make them obvious takeover targets have perhaps forgotten the lessons of the late 1980s and early 1990s. The City may have forgiven Martin Sorrell for the spec-tacular loss of shareholder value he oversaw

How Lord Saatchi must be smiling to him-the company's way of unburdening itself of in that period, but you'd be hard-pressed to self-that is if he has time to in between its past, of finally drawing a line in the sand ind anyone willing to support another bout find anyone willing to support another bout of empire-building in the advertising industry as we approach the millennium. Adver-tising may be one of those businesses where to be small is to be beautiful.

### Niceties butter no parsnips in forex

If exchange rates never misbehaved, what would the G7 ministers have left to argue about? Likewise, if the pound didn't interrupt its long-run decline with an apprecia-tion from time to time, what would British exporters be able to blame for their mediocre performance?

The difficulty with exchange rates is that they never please all of the people all of the time. Whenever they move too far in one direction or another somebody is bound to kick up a fuss. There are three separate areas of fuss in the currency markets at the moment, but the paradox is that exchange rates are not far away from what economists would consider to be their equilibrium values. There are no serious mis-alignments.

Take the dollar versus the yen. The US currency has gained more than 50 per cent in value since hitting its post-war low in April 1995. The G7 meeting two years ago marked a successful turning point. Both the Japanese and Americans are indicating that they think the movement has gooe far enough.

nigher, American manufacturers will feel the forth. pinch. It is perhaps surprising that they have not yet started to whine in any serious way. The US trade deficit - and especially the bilateral deficit with Japan - is uncomfortably big. It would be alarming if the strong dollar started to undermine exports.

The Japanese probably do not mean it. Yasuo Matsushita, Governor of the Bank of Japan, made it clear in a speech at the end of last week that the authorities are depending oo rapid export gains to sustain the virtuous circle of growth in the limping Japanese economy. Interest rates can't go any lower. The government has to start cor-recting its hoge budget deficit, so taxes are due to rise. A weaker yen is the only

weapoo left in Japan's armonry. Japan still feels compelled to make the right noises about halting the yen's fall. But political niceties will hutter no parsnips in the foreign exchange markets. Investors will look at the relative strengths of the two economies - the contrast could hardly be greater - and at interest rate prospects. If the authorities tried intervention in these circurstances it would flop. The market is right

A second aspect of currency tensions is the outlook for EMU. The investing herd has a simple rule of thumh here. Wheoever the single currency looks less probable, buy German marks, and vice versa. As the political heat builds up during the next year, there will kitchen.

The US means it; if the dollar climbs even be several waves of sentimeot back and

Beneath these waves, most of the currencies within the exchange rate mechanism will remain as stable as they have for the past five years. The exception, the lira, will be vulnerable to bigger movements unless Italy delivers economic reforms and budget pro-posals the market finds geomiely credible.

That leaves sterling. There are two con-tradictory views about the pound's receot advance. You can either believe that it represents a fundamental improvement in the British economy - an improvement based partly on the performance of all those exporters now complaining the loudest

about the strong pound,
Or you can opt for the view that it is a temporary gain linked to the dollar and the present mini-boom. On balance the latter case seems more probable. So if you are taking your holiday abroad this summer, this is perhaps the time to be buying your currency.

### Some don't like it hot

Tt's a hit rich of Andrew Regan to complain Labout the surveillance operation mounted by the CWS against him and his family. This is the man who has prevailed upon senior CWS executives to act in a grossly disloyal way to their organisation. If he can't stand the heat, he should never have entered the

# Sellers lose out as Alliance shares climb

**Clifford German** 

The 640,000 investors who chose to sell their shares in Alliance & Leicester last week lost out yesterday, with the price climbing to 571.5p at one stage during the company's debot on the stock market. Some 27 per cent of the 2.3 million people who received free

Auction of A&L shares Price No of whates (p) bid for 546 . 730,000 755.000 500,000 527.1,000,000 526 2,015,000 522 20,220,000 521 6,140,000 520, 7,455,000 Average bid price: 522,08p. Telmi shares bid for: 52,361,667; Number

shares decided to sell through an auction conducted by

The shares in the reconstituted bank eventually closed at 566.5p yesterday, valuing the 250 free shares received by all of the former huilding society's members at £1,416.

The closing price values the new bank at £3.3bn. The £1.416

vestors who have retained their stakes is considerably more than the £1,000 forecast by the hank's advisers last October. The result of the first of

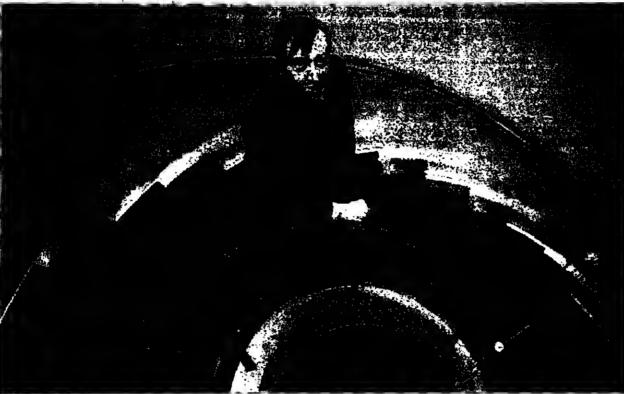
three auctions held among in-stitutions, which was held on Friday, was published yesterday. The average price achieved was 522p, the highest was 546p and the lowest 517p. There were 36 hids for a total of 52 million shares. The secood auction was held last night, and the final round of bidding will be held late this afternoon. Dealings opened yesterday at

545p, well above the middle price of 521p forecast by the City bookmakers, IG Index, at the close of business last Friday. A&L shares were easily the most active stock traded and by the close of business an estimated 70 million shares had been traded, including the 52 million sold by auction to in-Those who voted to sell their

shares through stockbrokers Cazenove will have to wait until the start of trading on Wednesday morning before they know how much they will receive for their shares. They will get the average of the prices realised at the three auctions. The average price of last night's auction will be made

known this morning.

The relatively low turnover yesterday excluding the shares auctioned last Friday suggests that the institutions were prepared to wait and see whether the shares could be bought windfall for the 1.5 million in- cheaper But if prices start high-



Going up: The share price suggests that Richard Pym, A&L managing director, might face a bid Photograph: Kalpesh Lathigra

er again this morning, some dealers said it it could trigger a surge in demand from institutions who will eventually need to hold up to half the total issue after it becomes a constituent of the FTSE 100 share index.

The surge in the share price yesterday took most of the City institutions by surprise and opinion is now divided whether it is sustainable. Last night's claimed the proper price based

price values the shares at 13.9 times historic earnings and implies a yield of 3.6 per cent gross on the notional dividend the directors would have paid for last year. On the same basis its nearest rival. Abbey National, is trading at 14.4 times earnings and yields 4 per cent gross...

If the market price is maintained it may have widespread implications for the value of But John Leonard, banking shares in the Halifax, Woolwich and Northern Rock building analyst at Salomon hrothers societies and for Norwich

capital to shareholders.

on fundamentals should be Union, all of which are con-480p-500p and the market price verting to public companies in the next three months. If larger implied a strong expectation of a bid for the new bank or an numbers of shareholders now early move to return surplus decide to hold on to their shares in these conversions in anticipation of a bigger profit by wait-

ing, it could force institutions to hid prices up to secure the shares they need to comply with their investment rules. Market report, page 23

### IN BRIEF

### Record £250,000 fine for City Equities

City Equities, the London-based share dealer, has been fined a record £250,000 by Fimhra, the investment watchdog, for misinforming clieots on the risks of trading in so-called "penny shares". The firm was also ordered to pay the £30,906 costs of the Fimbra inquiry. City Equities admitted charges that it did not explain the risks of investing in penny shares, that it made unsolicited calls to try to conclude deals over the phone and that it failed to establish whether its recommendations suited clients. Firnhra also found that City Equities failed to keep proper records or maintain staff

### Traffic dips at East Midlands Airport

Passenger numbers at East Midlands Airport, owned by National Express, fell by 281,000 in the first quarter of 1997, a drop of 4.7 per cent on the same period last year. The period is EMA's least busy quarter and the passeoger numbers were the second highest in the first quarter in EMA's history. The company said the figures reflected a national picture of reduced charter and inclusive tour traffic in summer 1996 and the 1996/97 winter programmes. The outlook for 1997 as a whole was more encouraging.

### Industry's £12bn sickness bill

Sickness absence cost industry £12bn last year following the loss of 187 million working days, a Confederation of Industry survey showed. The survey of almost 700 companies found there was an average cost of £533 for every worker off sick. Workers took an average of 8.4 days off sick last year, half a day more than in 1994 when the last survey was conducted by the CBL. The cost of sickness has jumped from £10bn in 1994 following a rise in the number of days taken off by non-manual workers from 6.1 to 7.9. Absence rates among manual employees have remained at 9.7 days a year, with part-timers taking off eight days a year. Most of the time off was because of illness, although another significant reason was family responsibilities.

### Premier Famell under pressure

The continued strength of sterling knocked around £6m off anmual profits at Premier Farnell, the world's higgest catalogue distributor of electronic bits and pieces. Howard Poulson, chief executive, said: "In terms of translation, one cent is equivalent to \$1m of profits." However, he said that the biggest impact on last year's profits, which failed to meet expectations with a rise from an underlying £110.8m to £137m before tax, came from weak conditions in the volume distribution market.

Investment Colu

# bank off to flying start

Chris Hughes

Sainsbury's fledgling bank is attracting more than 10,000 customers a week which, the company said, was ahead of expectations, analysis were less surprised and said Sainsbury might find it hard to maintain the momentum.

"It's a very promising start, but it's only a start," said Simon Samuels, banking analyst at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson. "Sainsbury has been picking the low-hanging fruit straight way. But I suspect it was pleasantly surprised by the take-up, as Tesco and Prudential have also eotered the market for depositors. Sainsbury's Bank, 55 per

cent-owned by Sainsbury and 45 per cent by the Bank of Scotland, attracted more than 100,000 customers who have deposited £100m since it opened eight weeks ago. Its 10,000 new customers a week compares with 12,000 a month for First-Direct, traditionally the fastestgrowing bank in the UK. Tesco's bank attracted 190,000 customers in its first eight months. Sainsbury's offers two ac-

counts and two credit cards. Its Instant Access Savings account, which offers 5.75 per ceot interest on balances over £1, has been the most popular product. Sainsbury had benefited from a receptive customer base and

a market-leading interest rate, Mr Samuels said, "It's a stonking rate of interest. But it's not clear whether Sainsbury can maintain it across an entire product range.

# Sainsbury Leap in price of houses biggest in 20 years

Diane Coyle Economics Editor

House prices are at their most huoyant for two decades, according to a new survey. The impending general election had not dented the bousing market, the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors said yesterday. Its regular survey of estate

agents showed more than a tenth reporting that house prices have climbed by more than 5 per cent in the past three months – the only time apart from 1988 that the response has been this strong in the 20 years since the survey began.

The housing recovery would the institute continue, predicted, thanks to the tax cuts and windfalls of free building society shares. Ian Perry, a spokesman, said: "Combined with a marked rise in the number of valuations being carried out, this means we can look forward to more property coming on to the market."

However, the recovery has been uneven. London, the south-East and West Midlands account for the upbeat results.

A net balance of 90 per cent of the respondents in London said they had seen prices increase, followed by 87 per cent in the

At the other extreme, the positive balance was only 15 per cent in the East Midlands, and 33 per cent in Yorkshire and Humberside. This could not be described

as a national housing boom, the survey observed. Apart from anything else, the number of transactions is running at an ananal rate of about 1.3 million against 2.2 million in 1988.
Even so, Mr Perry said, "The housing market seems to be im-

hle phasing out of tax relief on mortgage interest had not had any appreciable effect.

House prices remain the clearest signal of the strength of the housing market. Other re-cent figures have pointed to a cooling off in the pace of activity in the past two or three months For example, hanks and

huilding societies reported a slight decline in new mortgage lending last month. The num-ber of loans approved by huild-ing societies returned to the same level as a year ago after picking up sharply last autumn.

The mixed signals mean economists are divided in their views about the underlying health of the housing market. Simon Briscoe of investment bank Nikko predicts there will be no boom "this side of the milennium". Others say that, although talk of boom is exagg-erated, house price rises this rates in May and of the possi- year could be in double digits.

### Resolution No.1 To receive and adopt the Accounts and Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 December 1996; To re-appoint as a Director, Mr K Jones, who has joined the Board since the last Annual Resolution No.2 General Meeting: Resolution No.3 To re-appoint as a Director, Mr A D Lyons, who has joined the Board since the last

Annual General Meeting: To re-appoint as a Director, Mr P W L Morgan, who is retiring by rotation: Resolution No.4 Resolution No.5 To re-appoint as a Director, Mr B J Brindley, who is retiring by rotation;

National Provident Institution

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 161st Annual General Meeting of Members of National Provident

Institution will be held at the City Conference Centre, 76 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7JN, on Wednesday.

To re-appoint as a Director, Lord Camoys, who is retiring by rotation; Resolution No.6 Resolution No.7 To re-appoint as a Director, Mr K H McBrien, who is retiring by rotation: (Mr Morgan and Lord Camoys are members of the Remuneration Committee) Resolution No.8 To re-appoint Coopers & Lybrand as Auditors and to authorise the Directors to

21 May 1997, at 12.00 noon, for the transaction of the following ordinary business:

determine their remuneration. BY ORDER OF THE BOARD: Steven O'Brien, Company Secretary. Principal Office: National Provident House, 55 Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2UE.

NOTE. A Member enriched to attend and vote at the general meeting is enriched to appoint a proxy to attend and, nn a poll, to vote instead of him or her. A proxy need not be a Member of NPI. Proxy forms are available on request from the Company Secretary at the Principal Office. Completed proxy forms must be deposited at the

Principal Office not later than 12 noon on 19 May 1997.



If you would like a copy of NPT's Report and Accounts 1996, write to Steven O'Brien, Box 101, NPI, National Provident House, 55 Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2UE.

# Sears to decide on Freemans

mone to the election." Predic-

rions of an increase in interest

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

Sears, the retailing group, looks set to decide by the end of this week whether to try to agree a deal to sell its Freemans home shopping business to Littlewoods, subject to the result of a fresh investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission (MMC).

An exclusivity clause giving Littlewoods sole rights to negotiate a purchase is understood to run out tomorrow, the day before Sears Executive board, led by embattled chief executive Liam Strong, meets to decide on

the proposal Sears is thought likely to give more details on the sale with its financial results announcement next week.

The Government yesterday called a second MMC investigation into the planned Littlewoods purchase of Freemans. The previous investigation was halted after Sears abandoned the negotiations. The MMC has to report its findings by 21 July.

However, the Department of Trade and Industry cleared a potential takeover by N Brown, the Manchester-based home shopping company which pulled out of talks to buy Freemans last month. One sugges-

tion last night was that N Brown may seek to re-open talks to buy the business at a lower price while Sears is waiting for the outcome of the MMC review on the Littlewoods acquisition.

It also emerged yesterday

that attempts by Boots, the retailing group, to make an offer for several of Littlewood's high street stores had been rebuffed. Littlewoods has insisted it will only sell the stores together.

Boots declined to comment on speculation. But it is thought to have expressed an interest in turning 15 of Littlewoods outlets into Boots branches, out of the 135 shops on the market.

# Telefonica moves to cut AT&T link

Chris Godsmark Business Correspondent

Telefonica, Spain's main phone company, yesterday moved closer to severing its alliance with AT&T of the US after British Telecom's landmark deal last week to peach the carrier into a partnership with MCI, its American partner.

Juan Villalonga, Telefonica's chairman, confirmed that the company was likely to leave Unisource, the fnur-way alliance of European carriers in which it had a 25 per cent stake. Unisource also has an alliance with AT&T which competes for large European business customers with BT and MCI's offering, Concert Com-munications Services.

BT's deal to prise Telefonica out of Unisource has been regarded as a huge coup for the UK giant's internacional strat-Telefonica is the world's ninth-largest carrier with by far the largest network of interests in the rapidly expanding Latin American phone market. It has controlling stakes in phone networks in Chile, Peru and Argentina. Under the deal BT will buy 2 per cent of Tele-finica shares later this year for about £280m, while Telefonica will buy 1 per cent of BT. The arrangement needs approval from the European Commis-

Mr Villalonga insisted the withdrawal from Unisource would be orderly. "We will start negodatinns and since we have a good relationship there will be a deal soon." Facing criticism in the Spanish press that the lates deal hrought Telefonica under the control of BT and MCL



The discussions will now centre on financial penalties Telefonica could have to pay to leave

the Spanish carrier would bave to buy back the data transmission network it injected into the Unisource alliance on joining.

Mr Villalonga said be would "recover" the network, which Unisource uses to distribute its communications services and which is said to be worth up to £300m. However Unisource made clear it does not intend to

to limit the damage to its am-

bitions, insisting that the group-ing was "well and thriving," even without the involvement of

The remaining shareholders are PTT of the Netherlands, Swiss Telecom and Telia of

AT&T yesterday revealed a further drop in profits, which have been under mounting pressure due to stiff competition in the US long-distance phone market from rivals MCI and Sprint. Profits between January and March slid 17 per cent to Separately, Unisource sought \$1.13bn (£706m), though

# **Investment by venture** capital rises to £3.2bn

Roger Trapp

A 54 per cent rise in funding for start-ups and other early-stage businesses belped British venture capital investment rise by nearly a third to a record £3.2bn to companies that bad previously received venture-capital

The figures published by the Bruish Venture Capital Asso-ciation (BVCA) yesterday show or forms of expansion continued that a total of £131m was put into young companies, the high-category, with 593 financings or est amount since 1990. The number of financings for a sector generally regarded as being starved of cash also rose, for the third year running, to 225.

the BVCA, which represents vir- MBO and MBI financings was

venture capital in the country.

New opportunities accounted for 85 per cent of the total invested, with follow-on financings ously received venture-capital backing accounting for the rest. Funds for working capital,

49 per cent of the total.

Investment in management buyouts and buy-ins also re-mained strong, rising 33 per cent to a record £2.1hn and ac-Overall, investment in the UK counting for 74 per cent of the increased by 31 per cent, to total invested. However, while £2.8hn, or \$7 per cent of the number of MBIs reached a total invested. However, while total put up by full members of record 127, the proportion of

tually every significant source of stable at 394 or 33 per cent of the total.

> Engineering companies received the most venture capital in the 12-month period and support services - dominated by computer-related companies -

was the region that received the most venture capital per thou-

The largest source of funds is UK-based investors. However, those in the United States are becoming increasingly impor-tant and contributed a record £822m, 3.5 times the 1995

IN BRIEF

the next biggest amount. The South-east retained its position as the largest investment region, with a 49 per cent rise in funding taking it to a record £1.2bn. But Scotland

sand VAT-registered businesses. neering division.

JBA Holdings, the computer software group, is close to making an acquisition in France. The deal may be finalised by tomorrow,

Siebe has sold its RFI Shielding subsidiary to Cirqual for £9m.

334m of sales in the year ended 30 September 1996.

3.34m (0.90m)

191m (150m)

(F) - Rinal (C) - Interfer (11) - 11 miles; comparatives 12 miles

5.38m (4.12m)

Maste Management (01) 27tm (296m) 33.9m (35.5m) 4.5p (5.7p)

Landon & Assoc Prop (F) - (-)

Mice Group (F)

Read Expendire (F)

Pex (†)

Company Results

Pro-tax £

0.18m (0.11m) 1.35p (0.91p)

19.0m (14.6m) 1.23m (0.22m) 0.47p (0.31p) 15p (-)

12.3m (5.82m) 2.6p (2p)

0.79m (0.11m) 2p (0.3p)

10.2m (11.8m) 0.51m (-2.44m) 0.6p (-12.4p) al

1.76m (1.73m) 2.25p (1.87p) 0.78p (0.72p)

173m (111m) 38.5p (54.8p) 12p (10.26p)

11.3m (7.24m) 18.25p (13.14p) 4p (4p)

0.81p (0.91p)

Patrick Curren.

company had conducted a thorough internal management Mackie

suspends

share dealings

Mackie International's suffering investors were dealt a fur-ther blow yesterday, with the company suspending dealines in its shares at 113.5p - a sharp contrast to the 400p-plus level that they traded at less than a

year ago. Little light was thrown on the reasons behind the suspension of dealings. In a brief statement to the Stock Exchange, the company said that certain matters had come to light since it announced its preliminary results on 26 March that "may or may not lead to a restatement of the accounts for the year ended 31 December 1996\*.

A spokesman for the Belfast-hased precision engineering group, which last month announced a plunge from profits of £3.3m for 1996, said that a further announcement would be made in due course.

There appeared to be a glim-mer of hope for investors last month when the shares shot up towards 200p on news of a bid approach by an unnamed suitor. But the shares fell again once it became known that the preliminary bid talks had ended without any agreement being

The plunge into the red last year was attributed to reduced world-wide demand for linen, which subsequently hit sales of textile machinery products.

This problem led the company to take a £1.9m charge against its accounts, and to cancel the final dividend payment - leaving the interim payout of 3.7p considerably short of the previous year's total dis-tribution of 11p.

A high price for Premier Farnell Premier Farnell, now the world's biggest catalogue distributor of electronic bits and pieces, provides a classic case study of the pitfalls of paying over the odds for a big acquisition in another country at the ton rate last wear is showing or last acquired its first European-based internet company, Syzygy, but this is still small beer.

Another expect profits of £175m this

reil has brought WPP ont of the bleak years in much stronger shape than its rival, but he has had great incentives. Helping WPP to lift pre-tax profits last year by 35 per cent to £153.3m brought him one step further along the road towards an £18m bonus package. But there was only a little to help him yesterday along that path. The shares rose 3p to 250.5p, leaving him still short of the next whack of the bonus, which only kicks in the leaves the share price.

only kicks in if he keeps the share price

Dented by the strong pound, re-ported revenues fell from £390m to

2387m in the first three months of the

year, although like-for-like sales were up 6 per cent. Market research put in a particularly strong performance, with revenues rising 11 per cent, while public relations and media advertising

The mountain of debt which threat-ened to topple WPP in the past has

also did well.

Premier Farnell: At a glance

above 265p for 60 trading days.

rate last year is showing only stuggish signs of picking up. So on an admittedly bearish forecast of £159m for the current year, the shares still stand on a highish multiple of 16. Unexciting until scattiment turns more favourable.

with a hammed-up profits warning. In themselves, none of these is that serious, but together they add up to a substantial shortfall on expectations at the time of the Premier deal. Stripping out the £43.3m gain on the sale of Farnell Electronic Services and £7.7m of Premier rationalisation costs, the combined underlying business saw its profits rise from £111m to £137m, some

£23m below the original forecast. The shares have slumped from a high of nearly 750p reached at the end of De-cember to 500p, below last year's 540p rights price. Even after yesterday's 1p uptick, it is clear that Howard Poulson, the chief executive, and his team have

electronic bits and pieces, provides a classic case study of the pitfalls of paying over the odds for a big acquisition in another country at the top of the cycle. The £1.9bn takeover of US

rival Premier was being criticised on all

those grounds almost as soon as it was

announced early last year. Since then

the group has seen a drop-off in the market for semiconductors, been hit by

adverse exchange rates and rounded off its litary of woes in January this year

a wall of credibility to climb. To be fair, there were no more nasty surprises in the latest figures and management appears to have kept its eye on the old Farnell business during the distractions of the Premier integration. Profits there grew from £45.6m to £50.5m, reflecting organic growth of close to 9 per ceot. The slight margin drop to a still healthy 24.3 per cent represents investment in the new Industrial catalogue, a new departure for the group into parts and tools for wider industrial use.

More difficult to judge is the state of the old Premier operation. Certainly the £89.3m contribution for 42 weeks with the group and operating margins of under 21 per cent look a poor return on the group's investment. Year-on-year profits are said to be up 7 per cent, but mainly because of the £6m annualised cost savings squeezed out following the takeover.

However, it is early days yet to judge the benefits of merging Farnell's nigher-margin catalogue with Newark, Premier's wider-ranging catalogue offering. A new US edition of the Farnell catalogue, now rolled out to around a third of Newark's customers, is showing promising early results, with annual sales running at \$15m so far. The plan is eventually to take Newark to continental Europe.

But Mr Poulson still has his work cut out. The reduction in net debt received a one-off boost from the sale of FES and the sub-5 per cent market growth

tivities are actually generating £300m in annual revenue

# Sorrell finds it pays to advertise

Just weeks after Martin Sorrell raised the question of breaking up his WPP advertising group, Cor-diant, home of the original Saatchi & Saatchi, yesterday announced it was doing the very same thing. The two companies appear to be travelling in the same direction, but the reality is very

Sorrell seems to have mooted the break-up idea more pour encourager les autres, than as a serious corporate move. He still clearly believes that WPP's head office continues to add value and is not just there to reorder his troops on the

Yesterday, reporting sales figures for the opening quarter of 1997, he was pointing out that intra-company ac-

Analysts expect profits of £175m this year, putting the shares on a multiple of around 17 times prospective earnings. That puts it slightly behind the high-fliers in the sector, but is probable for factors. WPP and Cordiant come from a similar heritage. Both found that 1980's acquisition binges turned sour when debt repayment costs soared. Mr Sorrell has brought WPP ont of the bleak

bly fair for now. Mice discovers

rich pickings

ast year's hothy contested bid for Blenheim, the exhibition blenheim, the exhibition management group, showed just how exciting this market has become for many big media players. And the crumbs provide rich pickings for many of the smaller players too. Mice, a deof the smaller players too. Mice, a designer, manager and maker of displays for exhibitions, has seen its shares more than double from their 3p flotation price in December 1994. Yesterday, they were unchanged at 7.25p.

The market's phlegmatic reaction came in sorte of news that we had not at a profession of their reaction came in sorte of news that we had not a profession of their reaction.

came in spite of news that pre-tax profits jumped 50 per cent to £1.23m in the year to December. The latest cracking set of annual results is the third where growth has topped 50 per cent.

The former and a £235,000 boost

The figures got a £235,000 boost from acquisitions and the group is lining up another three purchases. Deals totalling around £750,000 for a small point of sale display company and a design and service company are expected to be completed in the next few days. Further out, the group continues to look for purchases to expand operations in the Benelux countries and Germany. Cash and becoming facilities. many. Cash and borrowing facilities give it firepower of up to £3m.

Mice, an acronym for museums, interiors, conferences and exhibitions, sees plenty of scope for market growth.

In the UK, it is starting to see the first flowering of the £100m or so pumped into the museums and "heritage" market from National Lottery funds. Once the election uncertainty passes. Mice is also hoping for a boost from the events surrounding the millennium. Meanwhile, it is continuing its thrust abroad, which took it into a record 29

abroad, which took it into a record 25 countries in the first quarter of 1997.

The group's confidence is backed by a forward order book topping £10m, including three big exhibits at an Atlanta computer games conference in June. Profits of £1.6m this year would put the shares on a forward multiple of 12. Reasonable value, although the market is tight with chairman Mike Curley and family sitting on 30 per cent.

# Andersen to investigate Symonds arm

icant breaches of internal controls at its precision engi-

The company said that Ken Garner, managing director of the division, had been dismissed and had been replaced by

The further raft of bad oews, which followed a profit warning

Symonds yesterday called in Arthur Andersen, the chartered accountancy firm, to investigate what appears to be signif
last month that led to a sharp review. A spokesman for revision of brokers' forecasts, Symonds said yesterday. The directors believe that the manhave been in virtual freefall agement accounts for the presince last autumn, plunging from 47p to 38p. Symonds oow expects group pre-tax profits for the first quarter of this year to be even lower that it predicted

in its trading update last month.
The decision to call in Arthur

Andersen was taken after the

cision engineering division do not accurately reflect the performance of the division for the first quarter of 1997."

Arthur Andersen will submit a detailed report on its investigation to the board towards the middle of next month.

Besides investigating and quantifying the effect of the

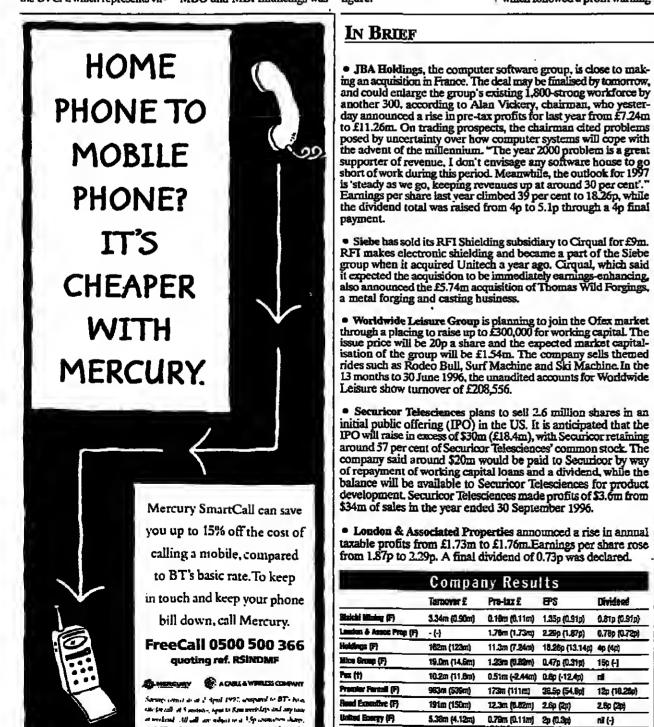
Mr Curren, who is taking charge of the precision enginecring operations, only joined the company just over a fortnight ago on 4 April, having worked for Burnfield for the

A strong hint that something was wrong on the preci-released in June.

fall short of analysts' expectations, due to order shortfalls at the division as well as in process

technology.

That warning prompted Greig Middleton, the company's stockbroker, to cut its profit forecast from £4.4m to £3.7m. The actual results are due to be



# THE INDEPENDENT RIVER CAFE COOK BOOK TWO With their innovative interpretation of

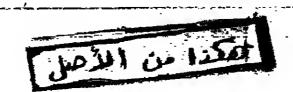
Italian country cooking - cucina rustica -Rose Gray and Ruth Rogers have established The River Cafe as one of the most influential and desirable restaurants in the world and their hugely successful River Cafe Cook Book has become a publishing phenomenon. Now, in the River Cafe Cook Book Two. which is available to you with this offer at the special price of £24 including post & packing (recommended shop price £25), they provide over 200 new recipes in the vibrant,

The emphasis throughout the recipes is on top quality ingredients and a fresh, uncomplicated approach. Using ingredients when they are at their best also means a seasonal emphasis. In their cooking at The River Cafe Rose Gray and Ruth Rogers have constantly been developing their repertoire and this collection reflects these new directions, with more emphasis on vegetarian dishes and on techniques such as wood-roasting, which can easily be adapted for any domestic oven. With superb photography and dynamic



design, this is an essential buy for everyone who loved the first collection as well as those who have yet to discover this irresistible style of cooking. Be one of the first to buy this book by ordering your copy today. The second secon

CAPITALS and soud, together with your chaque/PO, tet deut River Cafe Cook CREDIT CARD ORDER **HOTLENE 01 483** in 48 hours. Alloww up to 21



Secret Crembrigh,

204490

days for dollvery. Offer subject

eniv. If not sufficient return

within 7 days for full reland.

Orders will be pre-

at a second Vitalian and a second vitalian a

the state of the s

the state of the s

liscovers

nekings

months a

The state of the s

V with

tenting

10 July 1 15 Jul

orienta inter The law wall or or a sample  $\frac{b_{2p}}{\sqrt{2}}$  $\omega_{\rm spec}, \omega_{\rm spec}$ 17.50 er in taw gare W. Phys.  $V_{\rm eff} = 30.3$ 1.00  $m_{\alpha} (r_{\beta} r_{\beta})$ 

..........

20 000 25, 65

 $x_{t+1},y_{t}$ 

Alliance & Leicester domi-nated the stock market. First-time dealings in the building society-come-bank inspired other banking shares and were, therefore, a major factor in an upbeat Footsie display.
From the moment the first

transaction was recorded there was a continuous flow of deals, most small and, somewhat surprisingly, mainly balanced to-wards buying. The message that, for technical reasons, financials were the shares to back in this election year has clearly captured the imagination of private investors.

The first deal on City screens was the Cazenove Fri-day evening auction when the stockbroker sold 52.36 million shares at an average price of 522p. Within seconds it was clear

the buying institutions had got a bargain and the former building society members who ing society members who was eraggerating interest. But allowed their shares to be with Alliance attracting take-

packaged for auction could, with a little patience and so-phistication, have been smarter investors" and got a better price.

The deal following the Caz notification was for 9,100 shares at 545p. And that set the pattern for the day's trading, except that hundreds of deals in hundreds of shares went

through.
The Caz auction was punched into the system as a sin-gie trade. Under normal reporting procedures it would have been entered at least twice so the Seaq volume, put at 88.88 million, should have been over 140 million, or more than one fifth of the day's turnover. Alliance peaked at 576p; closing at 566.5p, a level which

exceeded market expectations.
It is, with institutions still short of Alliance, still possible that the so-called price bubble



MARKET REPORT DEREK PAIN

stock market reporter of the year

over talk there is a suspicion the shares have farther to run. The rest of the money sector basked in the Alliance glow with many institutions reviewing their financial exposure. The feeling is that those which have not already done so will expand their overall financial portfolio to adjust for the build-

portions to adjust for the building society conversions.

Abbey National, the trend setter for the converters, gained 14p to 812.5p, a peak.

Barcleys rose 18.5p to 1,028.5p and National Westminster Bank, which had the added spur of favourable comment from Fox-Pitt, Kelton, a stockbroker specialising in financial broker specialising in financial shares, 18.5p to 697p.

Bank of Scotland, figures this week, improved 14p to 339.5p.

Footsie ended 18.2 points higher at 4,328.7. But for Alliance it would have been a downbeat session.

BT, up 7p to 451.5p, was the most actively traded share after Alliance, reflecting its Spanish deal and expectations of its digital TV venture with BSkyB. Support from ABN Amro Hoare Govett, signalling a 465p target, and Goldman Sachs was also a factor. Reed International, in its ex-dividend form, rose 7p to

1,131.5p on talk its Dutch partner is planning a Nasdaq pres-ence. Another Anglo-Dutch

constituent, Unilever, was fattened by Morgan Stanley sup-port, up 15.5p to 1,594p. The shares also responded to re-ports that at least three indiscomfort, off 9p at 38p.
Raine, the building group, ternational groups, Akzo Nobel DuPont and Imperial Chemical Industries, were bid-

Bass was flat with Lehman Brothers caution trimming the shares 5p to 790.5p. Reckitt & Colman, the

household goods group, put on 7p to 807.5p on NatWest Se-curities support. The same investment house made positive noises about Somerfield, the supermarket chain which made such a hesitant début last year. At one time the shares were due to be floated at 190p; they eventually arrived at a cut price 145p. The price closed at 180.5p, off 1p. Cordiant's break-up decision

gave the shares a 5.5p uplift to 135.5p.

Late selling lowered Associated British Ports 12p 10 260.5p and Symonds, the electrical group, suffered the in-dignity of further profit

bowed to market speculation and said it was in talks which could lead to a bid. It said any ding for its unwanted chemical offer would be a share exchange worth 19.5p. There is, however, a feeling in some quarters another offer is being prepared. Shield Diagnostic fell 65p to 497.5p with some observers unimpressed by director share sales at 530p - the same price at which the com-pany raised £2.9m last week.

RJB Mining, off 20.5p to 412p, was hit by indications PowerGen had signed with overseas coal producers. PowerGen rose 7.5p to 649p. The strong pound continued to take its toll, clipping EMI 14.5p to 1,176.5p and British Steel 1.75p to 146.5p.

performer on the fringe Ofex share market, jumped 100p to 730p as US authorities cleared an ADR listing on Nasdaq. Peter Levin, chief executive, hopes the US presence will increase American awareness of its operations, which involve developing windows-based software which enables traders to surf

Display IT, the star

Taking Stock

Malaya, the upmarket cars group, firmed to 13.5p. It should have encouraging news at its yearly meeting on Election Day. There is market talk profits will advance to £4m, up from £2.5m. The company will soon change its name to the more prestigious HR Owen (one of its subsidiaries). Malayan investors lifted their stake to more than 25 per cent. A bid looks

a distinct possibility.

the Internet for financial

# Data Bank FISE 100 4328.7 +18.2 FTSE 250 4518.2 +0.5 EJSE 350 2128.7 47.2 SEAQ VOLUME 695.6m shares. 56,924 bargains Gitts Index 94,12 -0.03 Share spotlight The State of the S

The control of the co

# East Asia's dazzling growth is about to run into trouble

hen does the great East Asiao ruo of growth begin to taper off? The region has, over the last 20 years, been the fastest-growing in the world by a large margin, with the result that some parts - Hong Kong and Singapore for example - oow have a higher per capita gross domestic product than the OECD average. At some stage, however, this growth is bound to slow. Some couotries have been doubling their per capita income every 10 years, something that took the UK and US more than 50 years at a similar stage of their growth, and a rate of growth that mathematically cannot

continue. You can see the slowing growth pattern in the region's richest country, Japan, or for that matter in Europe's richest, Switzerland. Both countries have hit a glass ceiling. But what will he the pattern for the rest of the region, if indeed there is a single pattern?

The question is really a longterm one, but arises this week for a couple of reasons. First, the Merrill Lynch Gallup global survey of fund managers' investment intentions has been becoming increasing sceptical. You can see that in the graph oo the left: the figures show that the world's fund managers are only just net huyers of the Pacific Basin region. True, the region is rather wider than just East Asia, but it does square with a downgrading of that region too.

The other reason is the growing evidence that, while an economic recovery is under way in the region, it is a patchy and uoeveo one. The East Asian economy is driven by exports to the US and Western Europe to an extraordinary extent. For example exports to the US alone account for onethird of Singapore's GDP and one-

Country



Hamish McRae

There are substantial risks in the future. One is the dependence on exports of a

very narrow range of products

this is patchy. Some countries -China, the Philippines, Taiwan are doing well: others - Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia - are

doing less well.

Assuming the US economy continues to grow and there is a more secure recovery in Western risks Europe, eventually the whole region's growth will stage a decent cyclical recovery. On a longer view, though, it is at least plausi-ble that the East Asia's high

Net buyers of Pacific

basin securities (%)

growth era is over. This possibility has been ontlined in a new pa-tal to finance it. per by David Hale, the economist at Zurich Kemper Investmeots in

Hale's thesis runs like this. The region's growth has been dazzling. But there are substantial risks in the future. One is the depen-dence oot just oo exports, as noted above, but on a exports of a very narrow range of products. The electronics sector accounts for 51 per cent of Singapore's exports, 44 per cent of Malaysia's, 34 per cent of South Korea's. No less than 20 per cent of South Korea's

exports are semiconductor chips. This leaves these countries vulnerable not just to a fall in demand but also a fall in prices. One of the main reasons for a sharp rise in Korea's current account deficit last year was the 75
per cent fall in the price of chips
as a result of a global glut.
A second area of vulnerability

is the need for massive infrastructure investment. The need for such investment has been one of the reasons why, despite very high personal savings, the region is in overall current account deficit. While this is probably manageable without a Latin American-style meltdown, it means that the region does carry

This leads to a third concern: the ability of the region to manage this infrastructure investment wisely, given that it will probably have to pay above-average rates

Emerging Asia

exports

There are coocerns, too, as to whether the commercial management of local companies will be sensitive to the changing demand for their products - whether, for example, Chinese companies will be inhibited by government inter-

The region has little experience of shareholder scrutiny, a weakness which may have led to the very low rates of return achieved by Japanese companies. It also has very little experience of using financial markets to allocate capital, something which will have to happen to a much larger extent in future, particularly as an ageing population will within one generation need to accumulate sufficient financial as-

sets to cover its pensioo needs. Finally, the region will need to import very large amounts of en-ergy and probably food too. China, for example, will become a large oil importer as its car population grows.

The point here is not to argue that the region is in serious eco-nomic trouble. Rather it is to point to reasons why its growth in the future is liable to bit problems, which will have to be tackled. If these are dealt with successfully, then the debate will shift from economics to politics, and the role of the region in the wider world. David Hale believes that these countries will succeed and regain growth momentum in the final years of the century, and he may well be right. But it will not be the astonishingly rapid growth of the last two decades and there will be

bumps on the way. Maybe the main bumps will not be economic at all but political. Best candidate? Well, you can round up the usual suspects. The unification of the two Koreas cannot be that far off, but can it be achieved with the smoothness of the unification of the two Germanys? Hong Kong has to demonstrate that its economy can continue to prosper under a change of regime. And after Hong Kong, what happens to Taiwan?

# Budgie the Helicopter flies into a \$22m wrangle

The Duchess of York's creation, Budgie the Little Helicopter, flew into turbulence yesterday as the American marketing agents for the cuddly TV series issued a blood-curding statement and a demand for \$22m from its British owners, Sleepy Kids.

The row goes back to last spring, when Launey Hachmann & Harris went into Chapter 11, thus prompting Sleepy Kids to look for a new agent in the US. LHH yesterday issued a blistering assault on Sleepy Kids, saying that statements the British company made in 21 October were

Littl says Sleepy Kids should not bave pinned the hlame on it for Budgie's non-performance in the US, that its agency contract was not terminated, and that it - was still owed \$22m.

No one from Sleepy Kids was available for comment yesterday, hut the bluster from LHH certainly didn't disturb the stock market. Sleepy Kids' shares rose 0.5p to 17.5p. Fergie can sleep safely in her four poster for the

Not many editors who are sacked from newspapers then launch a magazine from the same building. Anil Bhoyrul was sacked as editor of Sunday Business in February in acrimonious circumstances, yet is about to relaunch Business Age magazine from the office block that houses the former organ, just off Londoo's Oxford Street.

Anil was sacked by SB's owner Luke Johnson, son of right-wing columnist Paul Johnson. However, Tom Rubython, who founded SB and is another ex-editor, owns the lease to the building, and is happy to rent space to his old colleague.

"We have a separate door." says Anil. "After I was sacked

from Sunday Business, I talked to a number of people who had been considering buying into the paper, and they were keen.on packing the relaunch of Business

"We're aiming for a launch sometime in late May, with a circulation of around 50,000. It'll be a 164-page glossy with lots of en-tertaining controversy. Our first issue will name a well known

Liffe Financial Futures

PEOPLE & BUSINESS



Kids' stuff: The Duchess of York is unlikely to be worried

businessman as a crook. We'll probably get sued for it - we've budgeted for that," says Anil.

Tom Rubython and Anil used

to run Business Age until it was bought a couple of years ago by VNU, who changed its format and then closed it down. Anil bought back the title this spring and has recruited Sunday Business's sales director Charlie Kerr and design director Trudi Roche who also used to work on the old Business Age. Whether anyone will make any money out of this musical chairs is another story.

Ian Shay resigned yesterday as finance director of Coda Group, the loss-making accounting soft-ware supplier. A spokesman for Coda said that the group had redi-rected the bulk of its operations to the US, and more international skills were oow oeeded. "Mr Shay felt he would be better off elsewhere," said the spokesman.

Robert Brown, Coda's chief executive, moved to the East Coast from the UK last year in order to spearhead the group's recovery.

The thinking is that if Coda is going to make it internationally as a supplier of accounting software. then it has to make it in the world's biggest software market," says the spokesman. Meanwhile the search for a new finance director goes on.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants' attempt at a television programme may have sunk in a sea of red ink, but that has not put off the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (Cima), which is now launching its own video service, the Finance Channel.

In the book-keeping equivalent of Red Hot Dutch, the Channel will feature five "modern, lively magazine-style programmes" each month "designed to help accountants in husiness respood to and forecast business change". I can feel my eyelids getting heav-

ier already.

The channel will be produced at Television Education Network's studios at Channel 4 and will cost a wallet-denuding £82 a month.

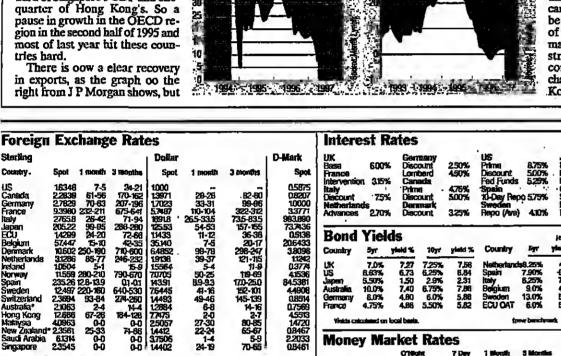
Hepworth, the building materials company, says that its chief exec-utive, John Carter, has resigned "for personal reasons". A spokesman says Mr Carter's departure was amicable and based on mutual agreement, and that the former chief executive was

leaving to pursue other interests.
Mr Carter is 51 and has beeo chief executive at Hepworth for five years, having joined the com-pany in 1987. The spokesman denied there was any rupture over strategy or disagreement behind the news. The group has started its search for a replacement.

Mr Carter's resignation comes just ahead of a changeover of the chairmanship, with Jeremy Lancaster due to takeover as chairman from Sir Roland Smith.

John Willcock

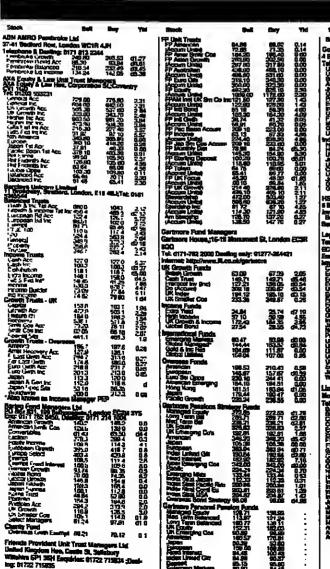
to y and

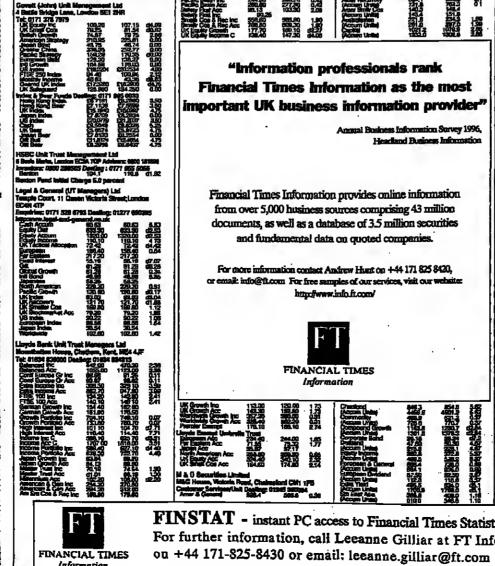


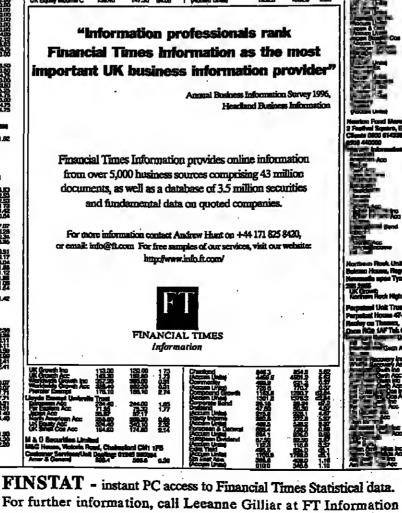
7.27 7.25% 7.58 Netherlands 8.25% 4.80 5.75% 6.73 6.25% 8.84 Spain 7.90% 6.15 7.35% 1.50 2.9% 2.31 Italy 6.25% 7.18 6.75% 7.40 6.75% 7.88 Beigium 9.0% 4.98 6.25% 4.80 6.0% 5.88 Sweden 13.0% 6.98 6.50% 4.88 5.50% 5.82 ECU OAT 6.0% 5.05 5.50% 5.78 6.95 7.68 6.01 7.20 6.35 50-25 89-93 41-16 49-46 6-8 2-0 27-30 22-24 1-4 24-19 4.1536 84.5381 4.4908 0.8514 0.7569 4.5513 1.4720 0.8467 2.2033 0.8461 **Money Market Rates** 614 614 614 674 Other Spot Rates Country Sterling 85,3000 0,3850 40,0799 26,3820 17,1530 3,6415 5743,00 4,4485 27,6500 3,6730 16351 19.5854 1.7375 13.5645 5.5561 8.4192 3105.17 442.169 58.4523 0.4971 09999 119803 10625 82948 34009 51484 190000 270390 35,7550 03040 **Tourist Rates** 19.0600 55.9100 2.2320 0.8055 Forward rates quoted high to low one at a Hong Kong() Ireland(Punt Italy(Lira) Japan(Yan) Malta(Liri) ted low to high are at a premium: 10.3900 3.0335

FTSE 200 110/161 Energy Brent Crude (S/bernel) Gas oil (\$/bonne) PE 530pm \*chg Yrago PE close \*chg Apr 165.25 +2.00 Jun May 186.00 +1.75 Jul Jun 167.75 +1.75 18.36 +0.39 18.46 +0.27 18.59 +0.31 Vol: %cbg YTD Year ago -10,02 207.74 +15,84 312.42 -22,09 70,73 +4.48 183.77 -5,92 495,04

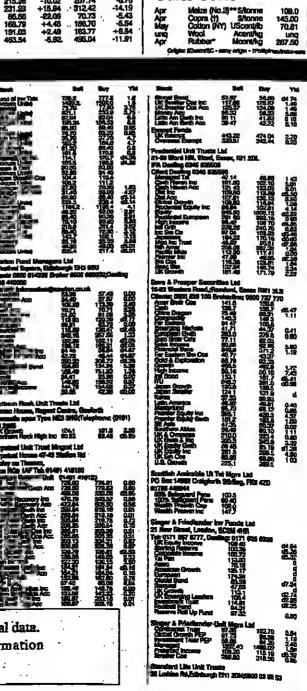
Industrial Metals Sitonne Cesti **Precious Metals** 381,00 233.05 156.50 85.70 475.00 290.80 342.25 209.36 223 115 56 25 Agricultural LIFFE S/tonne 310.20 304.70 301.90 1267 Mer Apr Vol: Index 1314 1315 1220 1332 Other Softs 109.0 145.00 70.81 unq 287.50

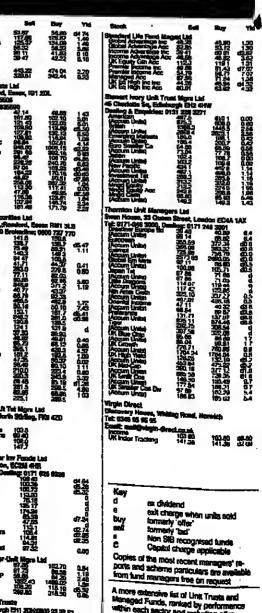


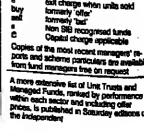


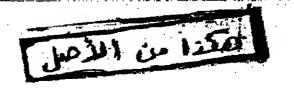


Latest Unit Trust Prices









# Flies Punchestown festival finds favour

Section of the sectio

or or for the

outtered

and took

the Imag

ing a state of the state of the

o beck

 $(i^{\prime\prime})_{i=1,\cdots,m_{i},m_{i},m_{i}}$ 

Lance 1

.... Milanki

ात साम हरू विकास

. (

 $M_{\rm total} = \{i, j_1, \ldots, j_n\}$ 

1000

John Willcox

... in it a telect the first tent has

Just 13 borses were declared vesterday for the Whitbread with the distance Gold Cup at Sandown on Sat-urday, which will leave the last big chase of the National Hunt Construction of the constr season with one of the smallest fields in its 40-year history, but if the executive at Sandown Park is wondering where an me mus-is wondering where an me mus-es have gone, they should look no further than Punchestown racecourse, on the outskirts of

Tacecourse, on the outskirts of Delin, where the three-day Festival meeting, Ireland's Festival meeting, Ireland's equivalent of Cheltenham, opens this afternoon. David Nicholsoo and Nick

Henderson are amnng the British trainers with representatives in Ireland today, while many, indeed most, of the host country's desirence appearing this week Nicholson has been a keen

supporter of the meeting for several years - he was responsible for Billygoat Gruff, the only British-trained winner, 12 months ago – and he will again months after a side of the raiding party this after a side of the raiding party the side of the raiding party that a side of the raiding party National meeting, attempts to follow up in the Country Pride Champino Nuvices' Hurdle. Sharpical, runner-up to Mid-

night Legend at Liverpool, will re-oppose this afternoon, while Aidan O'Brien's What's The Verdict, who won a valuable race at Chepstow last month, is back on home soil and is another whn should go close.

The feature event on the npening card is the BMW Handicap Chase, in which Henderson has another serious contender in Big Matt. An excellent

> RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Onefourseven (Pontefract 4.50) NB: Rokeby Bowl (Pontefract 3.50)

British challenge is completed by Arctic Kinsman (Nigel Twistoo-Davies) and Lord Dorcet (Alistair Charlton), but all three will need to be at their best in cope with Klairon Davis, winner of this race last year and a former champion two-miler.

How Sandown would relish such competition on Saturday, traditionally the biggest day of the year at the Esher track. Go Ballistic, the beaten favourite in the Grand National, and Inchcailloch were among the horses withdrawn from the race, even though the former put in an encouraging piece of work at John O'Shea's yard yesterday morning. "He worked fantas-tic," the trainer said, "but it is

ground and I'd rather put him away when he is on the top of his form."

In Go Ballistic's absence, it is left to Nicholson, surely the week's busiest trainer, to provide almost a third of the fiveday declarations for Saturday's race. In addition to the Gold Cup runner-up, Bartoo Bank, set to carry top weight, the trainer still has Banjo, Call It A Day and St Mellion Fairway in the 29-furlong event, while another trainer, Robert Alner, is responsible for three more.

Richard Dunwoody, due to partner Incheailloch before his withdrawal, may now switch to Gordon Richards's McGregor The Third. "The owners are keen to run and it is a £100,000 race, but I don't like running them from out of the handicap Richards said. "But he is in good form and his last run [when fifth behind Lord Gyllene, the sub-



# Search for Hidden rider ends in Hills

Michael Hills has been given the plum ride on Hidden Meadow tori will partner Shamith for in the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket a week on Saturday. Ian

ton will partner Shamikh for Godolphin in the first Classic. "I discussed it with the own-

Balding has chosen him ahead of Ray Cochrane for the colt, the five length winner of the Euoot worth risking him on the ropean Free Handicap under consideration. But Michael won

trainer; John Dunlop, has had several runners win that time out, including the litty Hen Henner in a handlesp at Ripon last week, and the chances are that Will You Dempe has done plenty of work. She looks a threat to Tourt on her half-length second to Cybertechnology at York in the saturms. Cybertechnology is trained by Barry Hills, representant even by Includent to the bestern two wite in a maiden at Heydock in September. On his debut, however, in Question, bestern two wite in a maiden at Heydock in September. On his debut, however, in Question.

tion was a promising second to his more experienced statisfierests State Fair (odds on) in a conditions race at Newbury. This ground is much faster than that at Donaster in November, when Winter Sunden and Zincter showed promise in the maiden access wan by Handson and Moon River. David Loder (four wins) has made a sägnity better start than Luca Cumant (two wins), as Zincer in hight be the pick of the pair, even though his trainer feels the colt might need further in time.

Selection: TAUNT

3.20 BENTLEY SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £3,000 added 6f Penal-ty Value £2,679

640-000 DASHMIG DRIVER (LA) (K Notok) D Shar 8 9 7 Feming 8 8 425602 Financial DRIVER (LA) (K Notok) D Shar 8 9 7 Financial 8 8 425602 Financial DRIVER (LA) (D) (Les Femines Fotoko) J O'Nea 4 9 7 Financial C Fi

4 20505-0 STANDOWN (111) (D) (this Civis Deuters) J Berry 4.9.7 R. Coding 3
5 435000 THE PRESENT PARAMER (198) (D) (J Bush) W G M Turner 4.9.7 R. Hawlin (3) 9
5 00-006 DEARBOWN (24) (Seried Hojsking) Mirs. (Solde) 5.9.2 T. Staldel (7) 12
7 00-0500 THECK REVENUE: (78) (V Greenest 0 Micholis, 4.9.2 Alex Greenest 5
8 40005-0 ORNOLOGIARIAN (22) (David Ojer) L Lioyd-frienest 5.9.2 T. Furbus 63 9
10 D SIMERION COURTESS (143) (E Bailey) 6 Hollesbeed 4.9.2 F. Lynch (3) 9
11 305000- THERASTRES (PLL) (183) (S Supherson) D Originers 3.8.10 Academies 3.1
12 D BOLD ERGAREMENT (196) (Smith & Allen Dis Racing) M Dots 3.8.5 Date clibson 10
12 declared 
BETTIMC: 3-1 Finistrove, 4-1 Standower, 5-1 The Printy Finners, 8-1 Lucity Revenue, 8-1 Skalton Courtess, 10-1 December, 14-1 otherst
1990: Smart Guest 4.9.7 K Fedom 7-1 (John A Hamis) 8 Jahr
1990: Smart Guest 4.9.7 K Fedom 7-1 (John A Hamis) 8 Jahr

FORM GUIDE.

Lock of a recent cuting will not necessarily stop STANDOWN, as he best Henrich's Usher first time out last year on the all weather at Woherhampton (50). His subsequent success in a claiming sace on fast ground at Chester was far today's rider, Revin Darley, and one of Standown's better efforts in the second half of last season was his second or 1.8 to Onotian in a course and distance claimer, a race in which the Pristy Farmer was 8 remains 1.3th. The Fristy Farmer also finished behind Standown in the Chester race but he would have a brighter citaries them noted of these on some of the form he showed at this level last spong. Like Standown and The Frisky Farmer, Lawky Revenige old not achieve much on the atwesting over the winter but it could be a different story now to its back on turf and dropped into a selfer. Lucky Revenige's Think's was last even for Martin Mediac was over-seven faviories.

sk win test veer for Me

and he stops at mile, but this is a peoing shifterings and Luciy Reverge should make his, persease felt in a week race. Finistense has not raced since med-December, when he was second to three Weeks at Wolverhampton over en extended mile, but his might not have to be flaming to to play a hajor bert here. Selection: STANDOWN

3.50 PONTEFRACT PARK LIMITED STAKES (CLASS C) £8,000

The Leicester making won by STANTON HARCOURT is unikely to amount to much but the cold do little more than war easily and, with that encouraging comeback him, there must be a chance he can get the better of the older houses. The other three-year-old, Cyberbecheology, can be fancied to make a race of it, too, He must have more room for improvement then the others. Rokely Bowl was restricted to just three outlags in 1996 but was a useful handicapper the previous season, finishing second to Pisudisk at Ascot and to Krave's Ash at Doncaster after winning here and at Sandown. Rokely Bowl stays a mile and a half, so a slow pace might be against him, but he is diden by France Deuton, who won on stablemate Hudden Meadow at Newmentest lest week. Billy Bushmactor's first race last season was the Lincoln, in which he finished well beaton, but he won first time out at three and four and this small held could suit him. Although without a wan last year, Billy Bushwacker was placed in competitive handicaps won by Improving horses, such as Migner at Reders and Clifton Fox at Doncaster. As a three-year-old, Vasa Garp was often highly fried but he ended up with only a York marden to his credit and he has a bit to prove when it comes to storying this trip.

4.20 CORN MARKET HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m Penalty Value £3,785

510345- AMOTHER THIRE (180), (by O Salherd S Woods 5.9.12 020000- SIALDICH (171) Noel Steenoyl R Hollinshead 4.9.9. 21.5 COURTSHIP (171) Bod Howard de Walder) H Cool 3.9.3 2050-00 FRIEST ROBERT (21) (Filmstr Reary Lip Mai J Remother 4.9.3. 2050-00 NESTON POND (22) (Als Andrea M Mollinson) Mrs V Aconley 7.9.2.

added 1m 2f Penalty Value £5,498

moudese 3 8 5 L Dettori 7-2 (L Curesoli 7 mo

on Hidden Meadow last year

and rode him when he was als I am most frightened of the third in the Horris Hill Stakes. first two favourites who haven't "It is never a bad thing to run yet this year [Shamikh and have previous experience of riding a horse. He behaved beautifully at Newmarket but he has an excellent each-way

6	113215	RAMBO WILLIZER (4) (D) (N G Swies) D Nichols 59 1
7	221430	GENERALE JOHN (4) Date 8 M Z Spirk) J Partes 4 8 13
B	E00000	KING ATHELSTAN (USA) (10) (an Gues) 8 McMaton 9 B 10
9		SANDELASTER (17) (Graham Wood) J L Byre 4 7 10T Williams 3
		- 9 declared -
Œ	THE 94	Countship, 7-2 Auction Time, 5-1 Rambo Waltzer, 7-1 Genuine John, 8-1 Forest Robin,
10	-1 Sentec	h, 12-1 Keston Pond, 14-1 others
IB	90: Master	Charter 4 8 10 K Fallon 9-4 (Mrs ) Ramsderly 19 ran

RAMBO WALTZER'S busy spoil will cach up with him eventually but his tourth of 18 behind in-form Meranti and Folst at Thirst on Seturday suggests he is not quite finished yet. Courtship was under pressure some way from home in a three-year-olds' conditions race at Nottingham 1.1 days ago, ending up 10 lengths behind the winner, Selent, but a lightly-raced Henry Cecil horse in a handicap commands respect. Another Time ended last sees on by finishing fourth to Cirton For in the Cembridgeshire when fills out of the handicap and proved this was no filled with his fifth of 2.1 behind Edan Heights at Newtoury, Summer Queen in Newmarket and Court Tony at Wandsch have non-handicaps first time out for Seen Woods this season, so the top weight cannot be ruled out. Susitable deteriorated as lest season progressed but two early wins at Doncaster and Woherhampton (aw) were for today's rider, Francico Detof. Considering Forest Robin was second to Sortie Tower at Sandown lest April, it is surprising that he could not win a race at times, Prevously with Fulks Johnson Houghton, Forest Robin has not specified in either start this term, so it is difficult to be confidering about him, Keaston Pond is not bedly hendicapped but le more of a seven-huring horse and a testing mile like this night just stretch him.

Selection: RAMBO WALTZER horse and a testing mile like this might just stretch him.

# 4.50 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m 11 Penalty Value £3,688

= 9 declared = BETTING: 5-2 Onesions even, 3-1 Shiriny Sue, 7-2 Embryonic, 6-1 Royal Expression, 8-1 breest Wis by, 10-1 Great Ocation, 26-1 others 1998: Upper Mouri Cler 69 2 8 Doyle 9-2 (C Amolin 15 rot

Figure (Suide Suide)

Siving away 24th on her first run of the season, SPIRRLEY SUE had to settle for second behind Kinoko at Bewerley, but that was an encouraging correspect. The more could be that wist bit after roday and might be subte to make the most of the 11th six because from Embryonic. He carries 10 stone and the 45 he has been alsad since his second to Bowchite Court at Warwick will not help. Deadermeven has done nothing but improve since being asked to tackle staying time, and he can go well again even though he has gone up 8th for his Deacester win from Noufarl, a race in which threest Wisely finished a well-beaten fifth. Royal Expression never got into contemion in the Cattenok race won by Dencing Caveller but he was more than ambied to need the outing – his first since he foliated by a length to dely 10 stone at Dorcessar less June in the race von by Greek Night Out. Stablemate Brodessan has nower won over less than a mile and five, so the timp (12 furiongs) was not ideal for the grey at Beverley. That was a saler, though, and at 11 years of age Brodessa is not going to get any better. This timp on fast gound suits Greet Oration but the fact that he races for the first time this season might just court against him.

Selection: SHRLEY SUE

1	.20	SPRING MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO fillies 6f Penalty Value £3,599
1		AGET (Mrs P Robeson) R Johnson Houghton 9 11
2	00-	FILA LAMEES (165) (Billings & Broughon) W Musson 6 11K Pallon 5
3	60-	ROSY OUTLOOK (USA) (209) (I C Smith)   Belting 8 11
4	0-33	SILENT WIRACLE (14) (BF) (M A Wron) M Sel S 11M Festion 3
5		SWEET PATOOPE (4/s 8 Mewton) 8 Honbury 8 11 J Stock 2
6	003-4	YAJFERAH (USA) (IA) (Herndan Al Walapum) P Walayn 6 11
7		VERASICA (R Leah) R Holinstead 8 11 Funch (3) 8
8	00-	YARINT EL SUNTAN (171) (G 8 0 Imports Ltd) B Mickelon 6 11 1 Newton 1

BETTRIS: 7-4 Silent Miracio, 5-2 Tajrebah, 5-1 Rosy Dutlook, 6-1 Sweet Patropie, 10-1 Agitt, 14-1 Yabint El Salton, 15-1 others 1996: Promptly 3 8 11 L Detton evens (M Stouts) 14 san

FORM GUIDE

SILENT MURACLE had two and a holf lengths to spare over Tajarbala when they were third and fourth to Mouche over the furious at Mottingham but, as she had finished third at Don-caster in March, Silent Miracle may have had a times edverinage over Peter Welveyn's tilly that day. The Notdingham runner-up, Lamanta, complemented the form by beating older horses in a 0-80 conditions race at Threst to Saturday and Silent Miracle must be thereabouts. Roay Outlook, representing ian Balding and Frankle Dittion, could easily be tire one that Silent Miracle has to warry about because she finished in front of Silent Miracle when both falles tan for the first time at Kempton last September, Roay Outlook did not improve on that at Chester afterworks, but cannot have given by the uninning on that tindy course. The market might indicate if the likes of Agift and Sweet Patoopia are expected to make an impact.

### RACINGS FUTURES MARKE

Whitbread Gold Cup H'c	ap C	hase (3)	n 5f 110	yds)
Horse (Trainer/weight)	Coral	William Hill	Ladbrokes	Tote
Amtrak Express (N Henderson/10st8to)	4-1	7-2	7-2	41
Aven America (M. Carracho/10st6b)	4.1	7:2	9-2	9-2
Bartos Bank (D Nicholson/11st104b)	9-2	4-1	4-1	9-2
Flyer's Nap (R Ained'10st3lb)	6-1	13-2	6-1	6-1
Cell It A Day (D Nichobon/10st1b)	7-1	8-1	20-1	13-2
Feethered State (A t. T Moore/10st1th)	12-1	12-1	11-1	10-1
Bishops Hell (R Alner/10st2lb)	12-1	14-1	6-1	12-1
Yorkstatro Galle (J Gifforty95032tb)	141	10-1	10-1	14-1
McGregor The Third (G Rechards/Ser2th)	16-1	12-1	11:1	10-1
St Mellion Palmay (D Nicholson/9s:6tb)	14-1	16-1	14-1	12-1
Harwell Lad (R Alner/Sst2th)	16-1	25-1	20-1	16-1
Sanje (D Nichelson/10st(8in)	25-1	20-1	33-1	12-1
Tour's Gemini Star (O Carter/Sci9ts) Each-way a quarter the odds, pi		250-1 2, 3 (Sando	200-1 un, Saturdayi	25 <u>0-1</u>

2,000 Guit		William Hill		Total
Entrepreneur (M Stoute)	41	9-2	4-1	4-1
Shamilich (Saced bin Surpor)	4.1	7.2	9-2	9-2
Revagee (P Chapple-Hysm)	9-2	9-2	9-2	4-3
Hidden Mendow (I Baiding)	8-1	6-1	8-1	8-1
Potra (P Cole)	10-1	12-1	12-1	12-1
Desert Story (M Stoute)	14-1	14-1	12-1	24-1
Inclination (D Loder)	14-1	14-1	14-1	14-1
Musical Pursuit (M Tompluts)	14-1	12.1	14-1	34-5
Poteen (L Custerii)	14-1	12-1	10-1	14-1
Yataletmoee (M Szoute)	14-1	12-1	tioutiful	doubtlu
Zamiodar (A Fishre/Fr)	14-1	16-1	12-1	28-1
Cape Cross (J Gosden)	16-1	16-1	14-1	16-3
Stummer (J Dymlop)	25-1	25-1	20-1	25-1
in Constant (B Hils)	25-1	20-1	20-1	33-3
Mantowni (J Solgechi)	33-1	33-1	33-1	25-1
Za-kre (B Hris)	25-1	25-1	25-1	33-1

Horse (Trainer)	Coral	William Hit	Ladbrokes	Total
Moonlight Penndlee (Seed bin Suroor)	4-1	4.1	7.2	3-:
Pas De Reponse (Mme C Head/Fr)	9-2	4.1	4-1	7:2
Sleepytime (H Cecil)	3-1	5-1	<u>5-1</u>	5-2
Reams Of Verse (H Cecil)	7-1	7-1	6-1	6-:
Khaessh (J Gesden)	12-1	8-1	12-1	12-1
Yashmak (H Cecil)	12-1	7-1	5-1	8-:
Dance Parade (P Cole)	6-1	12-1	14-1	24-1
Sprayir (W.R. Herri)	24-1	14-1	12-1	14-1
Dazzie (M Stoute)	14-1	12-1	12-1	16-
Rebecta Sharp (G Wage)	14-1	16-1	12-1	14-1
Reunion (J Halls)	16-1	12-1	16-1	14.
Seabe (I Baiding)	16-1	16-1	20-1	14-1
One So Wooderful (I, Curnani)	20-1	26-1	25-1	25-
Riance Ners (D Lotter)	33-1	20-1	20-1	25-3

Horse (Trainer)	Coral	William Hill	Ladbrokes	Tot
Fascinating Rhythm (H Cecil)	10-1	14-1	10-1	14-
Mousee Gleese (1 Lesbordes/Fr)	12-1	12-1	14-1	16
Yashmak (H Cecil)	16-1	141	14-1	12-
Fell (H Cecil)	20-1	16-1	20-1	16-
Sarayir (W.R. Hem)	16-1	16-1	14-1	20-
Reams Of Verse (H Cecit)	25-1	16-1	25-1	16-
Ryafan (J Gosden)	20-1	16-1	25-1	20-
Sleepytluse (H Cocil)	25-1	16-1	20-1	16-
Derashanden (A de Royer Duore)	25-1	39-1	33-1	33
Moonlight Peradise (Seed bin Surpor)	33-1	20-1	25-1	16
Shell Ginger (A P D'Bnen/iri)	25-1	25-1	33-1	doubti
Soumer Dance (M Spute)	25 1	33-1	20-1	25-
Apache Star (Seed bin Suroor)	25-1	40-1.	33-1	40-
Lnokout (9 Hits)	25-1	33-1	25-1	40
- Each-way a quarter the odds, pla	ces 1	2, 3 (Epsors, i	Friday, 6 June	U

Horse (Trainer)	Coral	William Hill	Ladbrokes	Tob
Entrepreneur (M Stoute)	11-2	5-1	5-1	5-3
Happy Valentine (Saeed bin Surcor)	12-1	14-1	14-1	12-
Patrile (B Hanbury)	16-1	20-1	16-1	20-
Yorkshire (P Cole)	141	14-1	16-1	16
Indiscreet (D Loder)	20-1	20-1	25-1	16-1
Medisally (Seeed bin Surgor)	25-1	25-1	25-1	20-1
Revoque (P Chapple-Hyam)	25-1	26-1		20-1
Shana (W R Hern)	16-1	16-1	16-1	25-1
Apprehension (D Loder)	25-1	33-1	25-1	33-
Astra (Seeed bin Surger)	25-1	25-1	33-1	33-5
Besiege (H Cecil)	33-1	33-1	25-1	33-1
Crimeon Tide (J Hills)	25-1	33-1	23-1	33-1
Desert Story (M Stoute)	20-1	20.1	20-1	33-1
Dokus (H Cecil)	33-1		20-1	20-1
Grapeshot (I Cumprer)	25-1_	25-1	33-1	33-1
Parmona City (P Chapple-Hyam)	25-1	33-1_	33-1	25-1
Shemikh (Saeed bin Suroor)	25-1	33-1	20-1	33-1
Yalaletanoe (M Stoute)	doubtful	25-1	33-1	16-1
Daylami (A de Royer-Dupre)	doubtful	20-1	33-1	40-1

# POWIETNACT: SAME

2.15 Chadwell Hall 2.50 Will You Dance 3.20 Treasure Hill 3.50 Biffy Bushwacker

4.20 Genuine John 4.50 ONEFOURSEVEN (nap) 5.20 Stent Miracle (nb)

GOING: Good to Firm (Firm between 1m 77 and 1m).

STALLS: 2m 1f - centre; rest = inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: None.

Electronal, unablating course.

Course is 1m NW of town on AS39. Pomefraes (Manshill) station (service from Leeds and Wakefield) Im; Tamshill station (service from Wakefield) adjoins course. ADMISSION: (July S12); Paddock SS; Silver Ring S250. CAR PARE: Third Ring, car with four occupants. 54, plus S2 at moneflex; remainder free.

ELEADING TRAINERS WITH BUNNERS: Mrs J Ramsden — 32 winners from 174 maners gives a success ratio of 18.4% and a profit to a 51 level stake of 512.28; Mrs Mrs, Reveley — 10 winners, 118 runners, 13.4%, 542.50; H Geell — 15 winners, 38 rungster, 41.7%, +511.15; J L Egyro — 12 winners, 117 runners, 10.3%, -51.00.

ELEADING JOCKEYS: K Falion — 35 winners, 182 ricks, 19.2%, +537.53; L Detori — 23 winners, 116 rides, 18.8%, -54.91; K Darley — 20 winners, 176 rides, 11.4%, -59.12; W Fans — 18 winners, 84 rides, 22.0%, -524.70.

BLINKERED FREST TIME: None. WINNERS: IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Will You Dance (2.50) & Stanton Hartourt (3.50) have been sent 236 miles by J Danlop from Arandel, W Susses; The Frisky Farmer (3.20) sent 229 miles by W G M Turner from Coron Denham, Somerset.

2.15 PONTEFRACT APPRENTICE SERIES (ROUND ONE) HANDI-CAP (CLASS E) £4,100 added 57 Penalty Value £2,722

PETITIVE: 1-1 Able Shorter, 7-2 blancks, 1-2 Septe Correl, 5-1 Charles Hell, 5-1 Discounter, September Wood, 12-1 Playmenter, 14-1 others 1998: Copius Corre 5 9 0 Carre West 13-2 Okts J Ramedon 17 sep

FORM GUIDE

There was only a neck between MANDLO, subsequently demoted to fourth, and Able SherIff when they were second and third to Johnyro in a 0-85 conditions race at Museelburgh
last week. Able Sheriff is 21b better off and cen improve for the outing even though he faid
sheady had a run, but Manolo sooked an unlucky loser and might be able to prove the point.
Iren. The Assessmonth from loss sound with the winner, Johnyro, going on to best a big
field of hendicappiers at Ropon last. Thursday, when Chedwell Hell thished third and Dissenter eighth. Manolo and Able Sheriff met Johnyro at levels at Museofburgh, where Chedwell Hell west-group pienty of weight to Johnyro at Ropon. Squire Caurie is enotiner that can
be expected to make his presence lett, following his fourth of 20 behind Surprise Masion
in Think or Saunday, and Summerville Wood cornes into the redoming, too. Summerville
linted is clearly in good heart and his Follosstone win from Sostheburg trookived a boast when
the stanter up won at Musseburgh lover a match, Heavy The Hawking one well for an interpohenced rider but seems to prefer a bit of cut in the ground.

Selection: MANOLO

250 BEAST FAIR MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) 24 IN QUESTION (228) (A Abdulate & Hills 9 C... STANGS CASHEDS BOY (Stakes Coones Racing Club) M. Johnston 9 D...

OS IOSSANDY (22) (Mrs Andrea M Maitreon) Mrs V Acorby MARYS PATH (R L Houtlon) S Golfings 8 9 50 Miss Riviera Rose (227) U.L.C Peane) G Wisigs 8 9... 

FORM GUIDE

# PARAIS CASITUS BUT ISBARD CESTUS FIGURE O TRUNT (238) And Hartingson O Mariny 9 D...... THINK ABARI (25), (Ray Cagger R Caggs 9 D..... WHATER CARDEN (286), (Sheath Mohammed L ZIMZANI FTQ (166), (RE Nessen D Labors 9 D. Marin DESCAINS (FTQ (166), RE Nessen D Labors 9 D. Marin DESCAINS (FTQ (166), RE Nessen D Labors 8 D. Marin DESCAINS (FTQ (166), RENESSE D Labors 8 D. Marin (166), (Renessed D Labors 8 D. Marin (166)

### SECTIONS: 3-1 in Question, 4-1 Faint, 9-2 Will You Dance, 5-1 Winter Garden, 6-1 Zinzari, 10-1 Miner Rose, 12-1 others 1996: Bocidrop 3 9 0 J Reir 5-4 & Chapple Hyarri 12 ran

TAUNT is the louron tool of a mark that sheady produced three winners and he looks

sue to wer moss, howing been beaten just a head and a neck when third to Redwing at

whenco-the in August, Dauric can probably do better over this longer top and he has had a

flew entities recently. Suggesting he will be ready for this first run of the assion. Redwings

5

# FOLKESTONE

HYPERION 2.00 Barba Papa 2.30 Sharp 'N Smart 3.00 Sea Imp 3.30 Mister Ghum 4.00 Cuben Nights 4.30 Vet Again 5.00 Afficionado

GOUNG: Good to Firm.

RTALLS: Straight course - stands wide; round course - outside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 51 R St, high for 71 to 12t.

III Right hand, underlying evance with a much of one furions.

III Course is Con W of fown off A2th. Westerlanger station (service from Landon, Charing Cross) adjoins course. ADMISSION:

III (under-18th Irec). CAR PARK: Five.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Nam.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Plak Ticket (2100) has been sent.

246 miles by I' II Evans from Leighton, Powys.

2.00 WALMER APPRENTICE MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS F) £3,300 added 3YO 6f 189yds

PRELIGION S WINGING B 12 DOZUM ROSES (190) 7 LAYES 8 7 PALLS O'MONESS (IG N BURE 6 7 LINCKY DEP (264) 0 (SMOTH 8 7 LINCKY DEP (264) 0 (SMOTH 8 7 

HETTING: 7-4 Stella Pape, 4-1 Fells O'Moness, 5-1 Licky Dip, 6-1 Tislean, 3-1 Pales No. 4-1

240 Sound Carrier 3.10 Mrs Em 3.40 Fortunes

Course 4.10 Ashwell Boy 4.40 Busman 5.10

GUIDLEY LOVER

GUIDLE Chool in Firm

Blest band, invalidating course with run-m of 240 yeb.

Blest band, invalidating course with run-m of 240 yeb.

Blest band, invalidating course with run-m of 240 yeb.

Blest band, invalidating course of course of the party of th

A Service of the serv

Country Lover

2.30 FOLKESTONE TOWN LIMITED STAKES (CLASS E) £4,025 added 6f 1,89yds 333212 APOLLO RED (CL) (P) (BF) & L MOOR & ED O Chardy Morris A Clark Y Cl September 1 SHART (27) (CD) & Smart S 9 8 .... A Daly (S) 15 452244 BON LICK (233) J Bernett S 8 8 .... A Clark Y Cl September 2 S 8 ... A Clark Y Cl September 2 S 8 ... S Smith (7) 3 Cl Molecult B 8 ... S Smith (7) 3 Cl Molecult B 2252-25 WOTORY TEAM (29) & Building 5 9 8 ... S Well-burnth B 2252-25 WOTORY TEAM (29) & Building 5 9 8 ... S Deman 8 S 19320. Well-smith B 2252-25 WOTORY TEAM (29) 6 Building 5 9 8 ... S Deman 8 S 19320. Well-smith B 2252-25 WOTORY TEAM (29) 6 Building 5 9 8 ... S Deman 8 S 19320. Well-smith B 2252-25 WOTORY TEAM (29) 6 Building 5 9 8 ... S Deman 8 S 19320. Well-smith B 2252-25 WOTORY TEAM (29) 6 Building 5 9 8 ... S Deman 8 S 1932-25 Well-smith B 2252-25 WOTORY TEAM (29) 6 Building 5 9 8 ... S Deman 8 S 1932-25 Well-smith B 2252-25 WOTORY TEAM (29) 6 Building 5 9 8 ... S Deman 8 S 1932-25 Well-smith B 2252-25 WOTORY TEAM (29) 6 Building 5 9 8 ... S Deman 8 S 1932-25 Well-smith B 2252-25 WOTORY TEAM (29) 6 Building 5 9 8 ... S Deman 8 S 1932-25 Well-smith B 2252-25 Well-smith B 2252

OS1230- WHITE SETTLER (229 (D) R Hodges 4 8 6 \_\_\_\_\_ S Drowns 8 5-53300 WILL DO (14) M Marcle 4 9 8 \_\_\_\_\_\_ D Summer 55 4 

3.00 SANDLING SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,875 added 2YO 5f .... Quiden 8 PROMPANISCHITS T Jones 8 5.

33. SSR NaP (21) Margin March 8 6.

D. SHAMMARISE LANY (27) 8 Wismens 8 6.

O. TRIOS ISLAND (69) N. Tompilms 8 6.

— 9 Gestaved —

: 6-4 See hop, 3-1 Thois Island, 4-1 Lackson; 7-1 Miles Scrotter, 17chet, 14-1 Antiques, 18-1 others 3.30 BARHAM MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,025 action 370 60 \_\_\_\_\_\_ J Reid 10 50-23 JOHN SHANS (S) M Bell 9 0 ..........

- 6 declared -BETTING: 4-7 Hordic Valley, 5-1 Pion-A, 7-1 Roldon Dram, Sound Corner

MISTER GLUM ( Baiding 9 D ... OCCOC- OCHER (241) M Tompless 9 C 5 PRINCE ZNIDO (27) C Horsen 9 0\_ 00- HEVER GOLF MARIC (154) T J Neutron 8 9 ...... 7 Sprake ! 6- HEPPY CHICK (248) J. Amiant 8 9... 6 LETTLE ANNIE (18) G.L. Noore 8 9... 3443- THERD PARTY (282) S. Dow 6 9....

—10 decimed — BETTING: 8-4 John Emms, 3-1 Order, 7-2 Third Party, 7-1 Minter Glam, 26-1 Pappintt, Keen Aleri, 14-1 others 4.00 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 4YO 1m 7f 92yds | SA,D25 acided: 4YO 1m 7f 92yds | O33444 | PARADESE MANY (58) C Egeron 6 9 10 | R Megles 5 B | O3365 | TALK MACK (22) G Levis 5 9 10 | A Whoten (3) 7 | O53654 | SERINLEY VERTILIEE (276) B Whoch 46 10 | A Clark 2 | SC1505-2 CURAN MIGHTS (10) B Levis 5 6 11 | J Bearriell (5) 8 | SC2500 | ADENIA (105) 5 Williams 6 8 6 | A Clark 10 Clark 2 | O25600 | ADENIA (105) 5 Williams 6 8 6 | A Clark 10 Clark -9 declared -man weight: 7st 10th. True handkap weights: Sresil 7st 0th, Kröv Pro-Sig Sib. 196: 3-1. Sticley Venture, 7-2 Paradina Havy, 4-1 Caban Hights, 6-1 it Alliance, 8-2 Talic Back, 10-2 Santhenaro Sid, 12-1 others

4.30 DOVER HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,025 added 3YO 1m 4f 1 000-5 CHARGEOOD MCK (18) (Complete 4 9 2 3522-00 ALMICHIDANK (13) G Levis 5 9 9 ..... 

63200-0 BLA AGAM MOU (110) G L Moore 4 8 11 \_\_\_Candy Morris ? ....7 Quites 2 - 12 declared -Minimum weight: 7st 10th. True handicap weighes: Noils Talls 7st 9th, Mega Tid

74: 50. Describe Officer 74: 30. 9ETING: 7-4 Yet Aginh, 5-2 Riging Spray, 5-1 Supplies Son, 7-1 Mails Talle, 22-1 Almohuman, 14-1 Ascher Venture, Chamarood Jack, 25-1 Others 5.00 TIM FREEMAN HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,300 added 3YO 1m 1f 149yds

0650A-2 AFICIONADO (11) (BF) R Hodges 9 7... 01.2236 MINICHDICHA (RF) (24) 0 Monte 9 7.... 20300-0 PEEL A LINE (22) 8 Machen 9 8..... 96500-0 SUDEST (24) 1 Balang 9.5 50614-8 SCARROTS (24) 5 Williams 9.4 0032-30 CHIEF PREDATOR (22) R Hannon 9.2 00040- PADDY HURRY (187) N Callegium 9.0 500-6 IRGEST AWAY (22) G (2005 9 D. Paul Bidd 1380-00 IRRESH PICTION (13.1) O Congrove 6 13. M Pitchan 06580-2 IRRESHAM DANCER (27) 8 R Matrice 6 12. T Special 2400-31 IRRESHAM DANCER (27) 8 R Matrice 6 12. T Special 2400-31 IRRESHAM DANCER (27) 8 R Matrice 6 12. T Special Resolution (149) (0) W Mair 6 9 Resolution ( 000- 20890 (159 R M Roser 8 7... 

SETTING: 5-1 Herbshan Dener, 6-1 Pinchiache, 7-1 Choine, Chief Predator, 8-1 Philimophic, 10-1 Sourrots, 12-1 others

3.10 BETTY'S 90TH BIRTHDAY MARIES NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m 110yds 14F213 MRS EM (7) (D) P Nichols 5 11 6. 1 Commins (7) 550 FM P LENNIN JAMES (20) GFT P Richards 6 11 0 C Mande (2) APLIA VALLEY (421) C Broke 6 11 0 B Broke (2) D LURAR GRIS (53) A Commission 4 10 6 July 1 Julius (4) A decimal (4) 10 6 July 1 Julius (4) 10 6 July 1 Julius (4) 10 6 July 1 Julius (4) 10 6 Julius (4) 10 4 — 4 decimal —

4 decimal —

SETTING: 1-5 like Eq. 7-1 like Valley, 8-1 femin Janke, 50-1 Luner firs

3.40 WEATHERBYS SPONSORSHIP IN RACING HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 2f 110yds

5 1(31542 GLESTRIN PRINCESS (125) P Boven 9 10 4 ......W Member - 8 declared - BETTRIE: 94 All For Luck, 11-4 Fortunes Cocces, 4-1 Stendan Princess.

4.10 HANCOCKS HB HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £7,000 added 2m 110yds – 4 deplaced – an weight: Forestal Set St., Bish' Cassis Set Db. 4€: 4-7 Petrivall, 11-4 Astonell Boy, 8-2 Forestal, 14-1 Bish' Cautle

4.40 DUNRAVEN SOUTH & WEST WALES POINT TO-POINT CHAMPIONSHIP (HUNTER CHASE) (CLASS H) £5,000 added 3m 

5F8/ PLAS-MEMON (1857) P Ron 11 12 3 \_\_\_\_\_\_Mr G (jn/s [7] 403339- SEA PATROL (327) 5 Gribine 10 12 3 \_\_\_\_\_Mr A Windo (7) B 3/ BERNA MONR (771) D Williams 10 12 1 \_ Mr N R Millshell (7) 12 /23/40 THE LAST MISTIRESS (198) A Cook 10 11 12 in S Spiriton (7)

-12 declared 
BETTIME: 2-1 Mine Millimook, 5-1 Secure, 6-1 Final Price, 10-1 VingScher

Bay, Doubting Donna, Royal Onto, 12-1 Others 5.10 SAPLING NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) 334411 COUNTRY LOVER (7) M Fige 8 11 12 \_\_\_\_\_\_ A P McCty V 00-0070 DOM'T MERO IF 100 (31) P Weeber 8 110 \_\_\_\_\_ A Thomson B 06 MR ROBSTEE (36) A Crombeton 6 110 \_\_\_\_\_ L Money WESTIFEED A Chambeton 5 11 0 \_\_\_\_\_ D Loney 1362 NAME OF OUR PATHER (13) 68R P Bower 4 10 13

- 5 deciared -BETTING: 2-5 Country Lover, 11-4 Home Of Cor Father, 14-1 Don't Mine if 1 Do, 26-1 Westfield, Mr Robstee

# RACING RESULTS 4.00: 1. MOON BLAST U Rent) 13-8; 2. Mystic Strand 33-1; 3. Bhapyar B-1.1 fox. 4 ren. 4, 8, (Lady Herries, Littletterpton), Totac £3.10, DF: £15.70, CSF: £22.72: 4.30: 1. SAFEY ANA (W Pyen) 5-1; 2. Czurum 11-1; 3. Carriya Quest 14-1, 15 fox 15 gas, Nt., rk. (B Hambury, Newmarket), Yozuc £3.80; £1.60, £4.40, £5.80, DF: £2.80, CSF: £5.47, Tricesc £865.03, Tric. £365.00 (cost word), 5.02: 1. SFARP PEARL (R Hughest 6-1; 2. Matter Robies 6-1; 3. Justinisman 7-2 jt fox.

NOTTINGHAM 2.40c 1, NENNICIPAL GRB. (I Spotel 33-1; 2. Juddy 33-1; 3. Garmens Glory 5-4 tw. 30 ram. 1½, 1½, IP Palling, Contonigo). Totac 536.20; 53.90, 65.20; 51.40. DF: £232.20. CSF: £709.13. Tro; £217.30 (part wort). 3.10: 1. GREY KINGDOR & Dikerragify 3-1 to; 2. Stephensusene Rockett 10-1; 3. Agustlo Queen 40-1; 4. Robo Margie 9-2. 18 ram. 6, 1½, IM Strizen, Neutraghed: Totac 54.90; £1.50; £2.60; £3.10; £1.40. DF: £22.00, CSF; £33.31, Tricost: £771.76, Tro; £419.50.

23.2.0. CSF; £33.3.1. Tribest: £71.76. Trib: £419.50.

3.40: 1. DOUBLE OBCAR (Alex Greens) 11-2; 2. Germand Sir Protor 6-4 fac 2. Chieff's Lady 33.1. 12 ram, Str. I-d., 11-4. 0. Nictrois, Tursiol, Totae: £4.80; £1.20, £1.30, £8.70. DF; £4.10. CSF; £1.207. Thir: £1.38.00. NF: Barwell Boy.

4.10: 1. NABHAANI IR Cochrane) 7-2; 2. Sheen Daming 5-2; 3. Key To My Heart 2-1. J. tw. 8 ram, 2-1. J. tw. Corradin (400. ½, 4. O. Didnicy, Newmarker) 7-40; £2.50, £3.60, £1.60. DF; £4.70. CSF; £1.25.6.

4.40: 1. THE BUTTERWICK NID (R. Winston) 20-1; 2. Sammed Scott 9-2 far; 3. Nicket 9-2. 14 ram, Nr, ½, (R. Fahey, Maston). Totae: £7.80; £5.70, £2.30, £4.10. DF; £165,00. CSF; £112.44, Tribest: £758.55. Tric: £58.70; £1.20; £1.20, £4.10. DF; £165,00. CSF; £112.44, Tribest: £758.55. Tric: £58.70; £1.20; £1. 250.11. Inc. £226.30. include: Not won (pool of £72\_146.49 car-ned forward to Folkestone today). Placepot: £229.80. Quadpot: £38.30. Place 6: £220.37. Place 8: £68.30.

BRIGHTON 2.00: 1. BANKINGHAM BLADE (Merin Dwyer) 5-1: 2. Seft Touch 12-1: 3. Fine talock Stadow 4-1, 8 man, 9-4 fav Mis-ter Banket (5th). Hd, nk, (K hory, Radiert). Tota: 18-20; 12-00, 12-40, 13-10. DF: £14-50, CSF: £50.50. E3.20, E1.10, DP: £10.70, CSP: £28.78, 3.00; 1, BARRIASCON (Candy Morne) 9-4 fav. 2. Netweet 9-7; 2, Erden 3-1; 6 ran; 7, 4, (6 ( Moore, Brighton), Totel: £2.90; £12.0, £1.80, £1.40, DP: £11.70, CSP: £11.09, Treast; £26.97, 3.30; 1, PETGSBUR (M Wignam) 5-1; 2, Berdauin Prince 11-2; 8, Roman Rosel 5-2 ( fav. 8 rim. 8 rim. 5-2 ( fav. 8

THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES BESULT FOLKESTONE 982 97) 0891 261 970

5.00: J. SHARD PEARL RI Lughest 6-1: 2. Mistar Raider 6-1: 3. Austinianus 7-2 p. iov. 8 ms. 7-2 f. tov Stopshert Gith, 19. %. U White Metricover, Yote: £2.30: £1.50. £1.90. £1.30 DF: £51.10, CSF. £37.37. Thouse: £1.32.43. Placespot. £2.30.30. Quadrot: £2.6.10. Place 2: £1.10.58. Place 2: £1.10.59.

TOWCESTER

2.20: 1. NAUTICAL TEMEL (I Power) 12-1; 2. Our Editie 20-1; 3. Paulton 3-1, 13 ran. 5-2 tos Boy Edelenby (4th), 6, nk. (K Wingtow). Total: £13-57; £5-50, £6.00, £1.50. DF. £106-30. CSF: £216.84, Trio: £192.80 (part

2.50: 1. WHO IS EQUINAME (M A Firgor-al) 4-11 by; 2. Volleybell 16-1; 3. Derrys Prerogethe 66-1. 9 rac. 8, 11. (N Hender-son), Toler £1.40; £1.0, £2.60, £10.10. Dr. £10.20, CSF: £5.94. This £153.10.

£10.20, CSF: £5.94. The: £153.10.
3.20: 1. SMARP COMMAND (KARDUL) 5-1;
2. Hammock 5-1; br. 3. Ears the France 33-1.
13 res. 10, 30. DF Endley, Fole: £5.70; £2.40;
£1.30, £13.00. DF: £7.80. CSF: £17.41. THCSF: £403.94. The: £275.80.
3.50: 1. SUPPOSEN (Retherd Quest) 10-1;
2. Lay # Off 7-2; 2. Franty Fore 5-1. 10 res.
100-30 the Postmen's Poth 8, 4, Mas S Smith).
Takes £12.70: \$3.40. £1.90. £3.10. DF:
Takes £12.70: \$3.40. £1.90. £3.10. DF.

100-30 fav Postmer's Pogl. 8, 4, (Ms. S. Smith). Total: £14.70; £3.60, £1.90, £3.10. DF. £34.60, CSF: £47.91. Tricest: £223.87. Tric

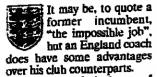
C34.60. CSF: £47.91. Tricest: £223.87. Trice £202.90. 4.20: 1. MR SNAGGLE (R. Johnson) 9-2 co far; 3. Grackling Frost 12:1: 3. Monitor Jay 11-2. 11 ran. 9-2 co fav The Carrot Man (4th), Nacjan. 2, 8. (Smort Earle, Tribe 15.00; £2.00, £2.70. £2.60, DF: £51.10. CSF: £54.16. 76: cost: £284.88. Trice £87.10. 4.50: 1. ARTICULAN FLYER (AP MicCoy) 3-1 for; 2. Stave Ford 7-2; 3. Positive 7-1. 10 ran. 7, 20, (6 Prodomou), Toke £4.00; £2.00, £1.50. £1.20. DF: £7.50. CSF: £13.70. Tri-cest: £83.63. Trice £24.80. Phace £: £88.22. Place S: £18.85.

Place 6: £88.22. Place 5: £18.85.

# England axe will do James good says Hoddle . Figure 1 Correspondent Evans had asked Hoddle to years ago, but Hoddle feels - To Correspondent Republic Property of the Property

**GLENN MOORE** 

Football Correspondent



One of those is the luxury of choice and Glenn Hoddle exercised it yesterday. He acted where Roy Evans must delay and dropped David James. While the Liverpool manager has only two novice alternatives to his hapless goalkeeper, Hoddle was able to pick four capped No Is in the squad to face Georgia in the home World Cup

to prevent his confidence from slipping even further, but Hoddie thought a rest from in-ternational duty would do James good.

"It was a tough decision but as other goalkeepers are now ahead of David on form it would be difficult to justify keeping him in." Hoddle said.
"I watched him on Saturday and he made a few mistakes as he has been doing recently. I spoke to him afterwards and he can come hack. All goalkeepers go through these spells.

There is concern that James needs every encouragement in case his collapse proves as terminal as Mervyn Day's many

not irrecoverable.

Taking him out of the England set-up might be the right thing to do," he insisted. "It is completely different to the Paul Gascoigne situation [when he was kept in the squad, this is purely a football matter. Hoddle revealed that Ray

Clemence, England's gnalkeeping coach, has already visited James at Melwood, Liverpool's training ground, to conduct a goalkeeping clinic with him. Further visits are possible and Clemence is in touch with Joe Corrigan, his former England rival and now Liverpool's goalkeeping coach. Since Georgia hardly tested

World Cup Group Two qualities v Georgia, Wernbley, Wednesday 30 Apa

England while being well beat-en in Tbilisi, and David Seaman is back from injury, James' absence is more important to the player than England. More relevant for Hoddle is the presence of Alan Shearer.

Assuming neither are injured David Beckham and Les Ferbefore next Wednesday, Hoddinand dle will be able to pair Shearer and Teddy Sheringham - Terry tained, although his public dis-Venables' cutting edge - tocontent at Blackburn means he

least he will not get injured, I wish a few more would fall out with their club," Hoddle said. With all but the Newcastle quartet in action this week, he was not entirely joking. Even with the inevitable with-

drawals, England should easily overcome Georgia. Since ing 2-0 at home to England Seaman are part of a near-team m November, the East Eurofull of returning injury victims. peans have changed managers Also recovered are Ian Walker, without any discermble im-Gary Neville, Sol Campbell, provement Tony Adams, Gary Pallister,

To make way for the returnees, eight players who were either chosen or called-up for last month's win over Mexico have been omitted.

Among them are Matt Le

minic Matteo, fit for a change but no longer in the Liverpool side, and Nick Barmby, whose loss of form has finally been noticed. The perpetually injured Darren Anderton is also out, while David May, Stan Collymore and Lee Bowyer, late call-ups last time, will again have

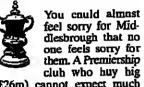
to rely on injuries to figure. Gascoigne, after four days' training and 20 minutes of firstteam action, was judged to he not yet ready to return, but Hoddle made it clear he would be back for the trip to Poland in late May.

Another Italia '90 veteran may not be so lucky. Despite a return to fitness and goalscor-

would appear to be over at the age of 30. This is Platt's reported view and although Hoddle as-serts that "the door remains open" he has yet to play the former England captain.

If Platt does not return, his gradual, unremarked exit from the international stage has an element of sadness. While he has not been everyone's favourite, his goalscoring record - 27 goals in 62 appearances - is markable for a midfielder the last-minute volley against Belgium in Bologna will long be remembered. His last act as an England player was to score in the penalty shont-out against-

# Middlesbrough need to break bad habit



cluh who huy hig (£26m) cannot expect much sympathy, but nothing is going right for them. Even the identity of their opponents is con-

In last week's Coca-Cola Cup final, Leicester were portrayed as underdogs, an identity that did not sit entirely comfortably

Premiership tahle, hut for tonight's FA Cup semi-final replay at Hillsborough there is no hrough, as their season of promise is collapsing round their ears. Six days ago, Bryan Robgetting away from the fact: most of the nation is wishing for their demise. Britain is backing Second Division Chesterfield.

"The entire country seems to have taken us to their hearts," John Duncan, the Chesterfield manager, said. "We played at Brentford last week and we got

### cheered onto the pitch and off the pitch and during the match. "It was fantastic that they felt former Boro trainee. spiring against them. associated with our performance and that neutral people were enthralled by us."

# History beckons for Chesterfield

Chesterfield could tonight be-come the first team from the third tier of the League to reach for the FA Cup final, 60 years after the first team from the same level made it to a semi-final.

Since the Third Division was created in 1920 (it was extended into North and South sections in 1921, and became the Third and Fourth Divisions in 1958) only six other teams from that level have reached a semi-final. In 1937, Millwall, then in the

Third Division (South), were the first, beating three First Division teams - Chelsea, Derby and the 1937 char ions, Manchester City. Millwall, who finished eighth in their division that season, finally had their cup run ended at the penultimate hurdle, losing 2-1 to giants of the era, Sunderland.

In 1954, Port Vale took the Third Division (South) title and conceded only five goals at home (and 21 in all) along the way. In the FA Cup, they progressed to a semi-final against the First Division's runnersup, West Bromwich Albion, beating other top-flight clubs, Cardiff City and Blackpool, on the way. In the semi-final, Port Vale lost 2-1, and, ironically, the penalty with which West Brom beat them was scored by a for-

mer Vale player, Ronnie Allen. A season later, York City contested Third Division's third (and fourth) semi-finals when they met Newcastle United, of the First, and took them to a replay before succumbing tu defeat. Along the way, York, who finished fourth in their division that season, heat Blackpool (and Stanley Matthews) and Tottenham. They held the eventual cup winners, Newcastle, to a 1-1 draw at Hillsborough in the semi-final before losing 2-1 in a replay at Roker Park.

**Nick Harris** looks at the Cup runs of six semi-finalists from the League's third tier

In 1959, it took another semifinal replay to dispatch the next Third Division FA Cup glory-seekers, Norwich City. They were 2,000-1 for the cup at the start of their campaign, and produced major shocks on their way to meeting Newcastle. In arguably the greatest giant-killing campaign by a Third Division deat Mancheste United and Tottenham of the First Division (3-0 and 1-0, respectively) along the way. After holding Luton to a I-I draw at White Hart Lane, they lost 1-0 in the replay at Birmingham City's ground, St Andrew's.

In 1976, Crystal Palace, who finished the season third in the Third Division and were promoted, met Second Division semi-final opposition in the form of Southampton. Palace beat Leeds and Chelsea on their way to last four, and their campaign is best remembered for the sight of Malcolm Allison with a fedora on his head and champagne in his hand even in defeat. In a season for giant-killing, Southampton went on to heat Manchester

United 1-0 in the final. The last time a team from the Third contested a semi-final was in 1984. On that occasion, 20,000 supporters travelled from Devon to Birmingham. only to see their team, Plymouth, lose 1-0 to Watford at Villa Park. Earlier in the competition, Plymouth had only progressed to the third round after heating non-League Barking 2-1. In an otherwise poor season, Argyte finished sixth from bottom of their division.

### Third Division FA Cup semi-finalists

Millwall lost 2-1 to Sunderland Final: Sunderland beat Preston North End 3-1 1954 Port Vale lost 2-1 to West Bromwich Albion Final: West Brom beat Preston North End 3-2 York City lost 2-0 in replay to Newcastle United Final: Newcastle beat Manchester City 3-1 Norwich City lost 1-0 in replay to Luton Town Final: Nottingham Forest beat Luton 2-1 1976 Crystal Palace lost 2-0 to Southampton Final: Southampton beat Manchester Utd 1-0 Plymouth Argyle lost 1-0 to Watford

Final: Everton beat Watford 2-0

son's team were close enough to touch two cups and survival in the Premiership. Now, the Coca-Cola Cup is being toasted in Leicester, and on Saturday their fears of relegation deepened as Sunderland secured a first win on Teesside in 35 years. The identity of the only scorer was almost too cruel - Darren Williams, a

The problems do not end there by the Riverside. Alan Moore, the Republic of Ireland winger, is out of tonight's replay with a twisted ankle, sustained in a first-half challenge with Sunderland's Allan Johnston, while there are further doubts over the fitness of Gianluca Festa, Curtis Fleming and the goal-keeper, Mark Schwarzer.

Add the muscle-constricting tension of heing the victims of the mother of all shocks should Chesterfield prevail, and Boro's state can be properly quantified. Under normal circumstances, Juninho, Fabrizio Ravanelli and Co would expect to deal with a Second Division side comfortably, but no one could describe what is happening on Teesside as normal.

Certainly not Robson, who hopes the prizes will lift his team rather than fear suppress it. "We have a really important run-in with a lot to play for," he said. "The lads will pick themselves up and there is the added bonus that we can still get to another Wembley cup final. At least Chesterfield will be going into the game with the same prepa ration as us. Sunderland had a six-day rest before [playing us] and look what we went through

"We have to get into the winning habit quickly. If you are in winning mode, players enjoy their foothall, and we have got to get back into the winning mode. We are getting the chances but we are not putting them away at the moment, so we are always going to put ourselves under pressure because of that."

Their captain, Nigel Pearson, believes a desire to prove their critics wrong could help Boro out of their present difficulties. There is still time for us to get it right, then we will be able to stick our fingers up at people who have had a go at us," he said. Yet Middlesbrough would

be ill-advised to assume that Chesterfield will be any easier to overcome at the second time of asking. Duncan has rested nine of the players who started the initial match at Old Trafford 10 days ago and remains contident that his team can become the first from outside the top two divisions to reach the final.

"I think it's a reasonable assumption that underdogs only get one crack at it and a lot of people think our chance has gone now," he said. "But we're aiming ant to be like the rest. We've done a lot of things over the last few years that a lot of people didn't think possible not just the cup run.

Duncan will give a fitness test to his goalkeeper, Billy Mercer, who came off at half-time against Millwall on Saturday with a thigh injury and was unable to train yesterday. Paul Holland, a midfielder, is also an injury worry hut Sean Dyche, who missed Saturday's match with a heavy cold, is expected to be fit.



David Webb: Worn down by the constant barrage of criticism that is a disturbing feature of the modern game

# Webb wilts under burden of abuse

avid Webb recently appeared on Richard Litlejohn's television show Do I Not Like That. The Brentford manager gave an assured perfurmance and received a thank you letter from the host. hut he won't be going back. Once a distinguished member of foothall's clattering classes, he is less at ease among the

chattering variety. "I'd never seen the programme," he explains. "I didn't dislike it. hut I wouldn't have gone on it if I'd realised, because it was a programme where it was pulling people to pieces. There was a guy who tried to slaughter Ruud Gullit. I wanted to laugh. It makes television, but it doesn't make life better. And that's why it's

very difficult to enjoy."
The "it" is football, an increasing hurden for Wehh. The temptation is to portray the buccaneering bero of Chelsea's 1970 FA Cup triumph as a cheerful cockney. Right now he is about as lighthearted as Bri-

an Mawhinney. In his fourth season with the club. Webb has kept them in the Second Division's top three for seven months now, but a foiled spring, including Saturday's home defeat by Crewe, has increased the prospect of the dreaded play-offs and left Webb in maudlin mode.

His answer to the first question - what does he enjoy about being a fontball manager - set the tone. "I've got to: say I don't enjoy it. Not any more," he says. Five weeks ago he offered his

resignation after being upset by the abuse he received from the Brentford fans watching their

team lose at Preston. The club had been leading the division for three months. Webb now accepts there was an element of psychology in his actions -trying to deflect criticism from the players - but there was gen-

uine emotion as well. Emotion, two, at the "unhelievable" response which helped persuade him to stay. Fans these days have changed

the lot of the manager, he thinks. Fuelled by Premiership aspirations and with more outlets for their views, there is a constant barrage of criticism. "The thing is with David Mellor, and the fellah Baker, and now the Littlejohn thing, they're all all right but most people who are reasonable don't bother to phone those programmes. So what you've actually got is an encouragement to those with a

grievance." Wehh has always received letters from Livid, of west London, but they upset him more now. "I find they hurt. I get up sometimes and I think. Why am I doing this?' I've got a letter here," he says, pointing to his kit bag, "a girl wrote to me slagging me off about something I did the other night, challenging what I'm doing as a

The incident saw Webb race to the touchline and shout at Marcus Gayle ("It was my own psychological way of winding him up"). Gayle had apologised to his manager that morning, and the two were the last off the training pitch, having spent an extra half hour practising crosses, hut Webb sighs: "I can't tell people about that."

Sitting in the manager's dressing-room at Brentford's

# **Matt Tench**

on the Brentford manager stung by fans' venom

training ground just opposite Kempton Racecourse, the craggy features, with the famous Desperate Dan chin, have a careworn look. But, having turned 51 at the beginning of the month, he could still pass for 10 years younger. Webb needs a shower and has an appointment with his chairman, but shows no signs of being in

### 'Sometimes I get up and I think: 'Why am I doing this?'

His disaffection is not with fontball, just football manage-ment. "I like watching football, but being a manager has tak-en the social side out of it." He has been to only a couple of social games this season but one of those - 10 days ago at Southend - only made it worse. "I heard the abuse that someone was hurling at Ronnie Whelan, and I thought 'what makes us want to do it ?"

Which makes you wonder why Wehh still does it. Having offered his resignation more times than your average minister would consider prudent, (once, successfully, at South-Brentford) it is not as though years ago, he was prepared to

he has no alternative. Famously entreprenurial, he is graduating from being the game's Arthur Daley to its F W Wonlworth. "I deal in anything," he says, and he's about to take on 8,000 square feet of ware- year 2000. housing and retailing space in Benfleet, Essex.

What's more, the career structure for managers in the lower divisions seems to be crumbling. Webb was in charge at Chelsea for three months, keeping them in the Premiership, and turned down Southampton soon after joining Brentford. But he realises that in football's changed world there might not be another chance to operate at the high-

"I look at things like Everton. And I look at the fellah who's done so well at Stockport [David Jones]. He was an old Evertonian, you'd think it would be the first port of call. But you just wonder now, what determines who is a good manager?"

A couple of years ago a chairman asked Wehh for ad-vice about who to appoint as his manager. This was at a time when Jim Smith was out of work. I said 'go and get him, Jim Smith, he knows his way around'. He said 'My people have told me he might he too old'. So they got a young hloke and they got relegated."

Yet for all his weariness Webb is not cynical, and the feeling remains that he will see out a contract that takes him to May 1998. For one thing he still has sympathy for the players. He recalls with a chuckle that, when be joined Chelsea end; twice, unsuccessfully, at from Southampton nearly 30

accept a drop in wages from £85 to £65 a week because it was a step up. That would not happen now, even at Brentfurd. where only one of his squad has been happy to sign up tu the

Players have not changed much, though. "Not really. I just think everybody's grown up differently. I could have an old Jag in that day, and I was seen to be doing all right. You get a geezer now, who's on the dole, and he's got an old Jag."

Mind you, an appearance in the play-offs will surely test him. Webh loathes them, which is not exactly the Becs line, as they were pioneered by his chairman, Martin Lange.

"All they do is create disap-pointment," Webb says, and hit is equally unhappy that, with many more important games at the end of the season, the opportunities to blond youngsters are drastically reduced.

Traditionally this was a time when you said: I've got four good young kids, let's give them a game', I started like that, I played in a game with Colin Bell when he was at Bury, in another at Preston when they had Howard Kendall."

Webb's experience in the play-offs two years at Brentford was a bad one, climinated by a penalty shoot-out when finishing second did not hring automatic promotiun hecuuse of league restructuring. You think, I've just taken all this lovely medicine all year to get yourself better and at the last minute," he clicks his fingers, "oh, and by the way, you're still ill," Webb looks up, the memory a painful one. That is why you can't enjoy it."

Ron Atkinson is a contender

# Compensation threat to Robson's move

celona over £250,000 he believes Ajax coach, Louis van Gaal, for is owed to him - before he joins next season.

Everton as their new manager. The former England manbecome Joe Royle's successor

at the Merseyside club during weekend talks in Spain. However Robson will not

leave the Catalan club until he out a salary dispute with Bar- Barcelona have lined up the

Although Barcelona have said they want Robson to stav ager was officially appproached in some capacity, he will take le-by the Goodison Park chairman, gal action against them for the gal action against them for the Peter Johnson, with the offer to equivalent of constructive dismissal if he is not paid up, and wants that row settled before he

leaves for England. Nottingham Forest's general from day one.

manager. Dave Bassett, has hit is fully compensated for the 14 back at critics hlaming him for months left on his contract as the cluh's plight at the foot of Bobby Robson will have to sort their coach. He is angry that the Premiership. Forest's fortunes have dipped in the last few weeks, with only eight points gained from eight games.

People might try and say that our results have dipped since I came here and link it to me, but I wasn't around when Forest won only one of their first 15 games this season," Bassett said. The team has not won enough games and scored enough goals

Danny Bergara has been sacked as the manager of Rotherham United after just eight months in charge. He was appointed last September, fol-lowing the sacking of the joint managers, Archie Gemmili and John McGovern, hut has been unable to stop the South York-shire club from slipping into the

Third Division. Shrewsbury Town's 19-goal top scorer, Ian Stevens, will join Carlisle United at the end of the season, after the clubs agreed a £100,000 deal.

Blackburn Rovers' caretaker manager, Tony Parkes, insisted yesterday that his club should not be taking flak for the man-

senal on Saturday, writes Alan Nixon. The Gunners were leading 1-0 when Patrick Vieira kicked the ball into touch in injury-time following, an apparent injury to Stephen Hughes. It is one of the game's unwritten rules that possession is immediately returned to the side who held it player didn't have a serious in-

ner of their late equaliser at Ar-

Parkes springs to Sutton's defence Blackburn striker, Chris Sutton. Garry Flitcroft equalised.

sportsmanship, but yesterday he was keen to defend his men. He an opportunity to save somesaid: "It's quite wrong that all the blame should be laid at our door, for the situation revolving around throw-ins has gone full circle. Now there is definitely an element of time-wasting creeping in. The Arsenal before play was stopped, but the jury, he had cramp.

"We threw the hall back to forced a corner from which them and Nigel Winterburn had the chance to either control Parkes' first reaction was not it or roll it back to his goalto support this perceived lack of keeper. He let the ball run

> thing for us.
> The seconds were ticking away and players sometimes take things into their own hands. I concede that, if he hadn't done it, we probably wouldn't have gnt the equaliser but, when the ball went in, I was glad he'd done it."

to take over from Lou Macari as the manager of Stoke City. Atkinson is poised to leave his supervisory role at Coventry ity at the end of the season. an opportunity to save some-Stoke's chairman, Peter Coates, will consult his hoard. hut he is known to favour Ox-

ford United's Denis Smith, a former Stoke defender.

Smith was a visitor to Stuke's game at the weekend, and he could be persuaded to move to the Potteries this time after turning down the job in the past.

اعكذا من الأصل

handdin pas **Emileston** 

2.542

10.00

41.4

. . 2... 4

# The best solution for Wales – this is in Wales' interest, not England's – is that there should be an Anglo-Welsh league

"How is it," I have often asked a match seem more exciting then it friends who live in Wales, "that our international team is so weak compared with England and France, when Welsh club rugby is so

strong?"
"When exactly," they teed to reply, "did you last see a club match in your native land?"

It is almost always, depending on the time of year, either the Swalec Cup final at Cardiff, or the touring team's match against Swansea. Ah, that explains it then," they

say. "You are clearly suffering from

the Rugby Special Effect." So I am. And so are numerous other followers of the game. It is a tribute to the programme's editors that, by skilful selection, they make

really was. It is also a tribute to them that Welsh viewers living in England cannot complain of being shortchanged.

Six days ago, however, I did manage to see a Welsh club match, Llanelli v Bridgend at Stradey Park. The facilities are much improved. In place of mud and corrugated iron, there is concrete and plastic. The crowd is as frieodly and knowledgeable as ever - even if a few did not seem to realise that lifting is now permitted in the lineout.

The game, which Llanelli won, was played at a tremendous pace.

Welsh club rugby before the adveot

To point that out is no criticism of the young Llanelli outside-half, Craig Warlow, who looked a future international. If Cardiff's Lee Jarvis is as good as everyone says he is, Wales will shortly yet again have a luxury of choice in that position.

And yet, though Llanelli demonstrated their traditional virtues speed, inventiveness, quickness of wit - they also showed their traditional weakness, a lack of power in the pack. Though seasoned performers, mostly internationals, were on display - Hugh Williams-Jooes, There was none of that tactical, slow-ing-down, cootrolled by the half-backs, which was such a feature of



quins or Leicester. They might have equalled Wasps in the pack, but I would still take Wasps to win. I do not think they could successfully take oo Richmond; not, at any rate in the forwards. Scott and Craig Quionell (both former

name but a few, would between them carry greater firepower. My readers in west Wales may say that I bave been watching too much of Richmond and too little of

England and Wales, this particular question was regularly put. Or, rather, Llanelli and Richmond maintained a regular fixture until, 20-odd years ago, Richmond can-celled it following the "raking" of Chris Ralstoo by a Llanelli forward (who in fact happened to be an Eng-

Llanelli players), Ben Clarke, Steve lishman). But Llanelli cootinued to lish clubs as well, even if less fre-Andertoo and Brian Moore, to play other English sides such as Harquently. play other English sides such as Har-lequins and Wasps, while the other leading clubs maintained similar AAnglo-Welsh fixture lists.

There is now talk of improving standards in Wales through the for-Lianelli. So, perhaps, I have. But the only way to settle these questions is to put them to the test.

Until the formation of the Courage and Heineken leagues in England. Significantly, however, the balance of the argument in England. Significantly, however, the balance of the argument in England courage and Heineken leagues in that standards will be raised (though, incidentally they will be) as that there will be less overcrowding at the end of the season and fewer tired players. Wales' former strength was that the top clubs played each other as ofteo as four times a sea-soo and that they played the Eng-

The best solution for Wales - this is in Wales' interest, not England's - is that there should be an Anglo-Welsh league consisting, to begin with, of Bath, Cardiff, Harlequins, Leicester, Llanelli, Pontypridd, Swansea and Wasps.

I do not see any reason, bowever, why either country should be guaranteed a permanent equality of representation. If Newcastle, Richmond and Sale replaced Llanelli, Pontypridd and Swansea, leaving Cardiff as the sole representative, my native land would have to grin and bear it. Welsh rugby would simply have to improve. That, after all, is the whole purpose of the exercise.

# **Umpires** in the dark over light

Cricket

**DEREK PRINGLE** reports from Edgbaston England A 453-4 dec and 173-8 dec; The Rest 350-6 dec and 9-0 Match drawn

One of the perennial criticisms of English cricket is that it is too soft. It is a view that would have been impossible not to uphold yesterday, when a potentially ex-citing finish to the Tetley Shield was abandoned as a draw. As the Rest set off on their mission to chase the 277 set them by Eng-

TONY COZIER

reports from Georgetown,

India 301 for 5 v West Indies

passed one notable personal

wards its incooclusive end on

the last day yesterday. India, 241

for 4 at the start of play, were

321 for 6 with half an hour of

when he reached 20 Azha-

an batsman to pass 5,000 runs

in Test cricket. Now io his 13th

year in the Indian team, the styl-

meagre series and was passing

20 for the first time in five in-

nings.
On an accommodating pitch

and against steady bowling, but understandably lacking moti-

vation, he would have set his

sights oo another milestone, a

hundred against the West Indies

that has eluded him in 14 pre-

vious Tests. He was 31 wheo he

touched a catch to the wicket-

eper, Courtoey Browne, off

Azharuddio might have been

displeased with the television re-

play that showed Rose's front

foot clearly over the relevant

Azharuddin

ruddio became the sixth Indi- lodies and Zimbabwe.

ish 34-year-old right-hander but they secured another im-

from Hyderahad has had a mediately after lunch when the

crease on delivery, but umpire Umpires: G Sharp England E thenose own.

a combination of bad light and a gravity-defying light drizzle that barely reached ground level. insignificant came ooce the match had been called off and the groundsman immediately rolled

Give him a momeot and Dickie Bird will tell you that most of his umpiring career has been blighted by having to make unpopular decisions. On this occasion neither he nor his partner Roy Palmer had received their oew light meters from the England Cricket Board. Judging the offered to the batsmen.

Cricket's susceptibility to changes in the weather is what spectators and marketing meo find most frustrating, and probland A, in a minimum of 52 overs, ably why, along with its long the match was undermined by the hours, it will never enjoy the poptumpires' decision to suspend ularity currently enjoyed by foot-play for over two hours, due to ball. Proof that the rainfall was

by Sachin Teodulkar last Octo-

His was the only wicket

gained by the West Indies on a

bright, breezy, sunny morning

captain Courtney Walsh, not a

practising first slip, nonchalantly ly snared a left-handed catch to

dismiss Anil Kumble off Carl

Hooper's drifting off-spinner.

To bot: S Joshi, D Ganesh, A Kunzvilla, B K Y

Presso.

Sowing: Ambrose 29-14-36-0; Bishop 26-8-50-2; Rose 30.4-6-86-2; Walsh 28.2-9-62-1; Hooper 7-2-16-0; Chandonball 23-T-42-0.

WEST WIDES: S.L. Compbell, S.C. Walsams, S. Chanderpaul, B.C. Lera, C. Hooper, R.I.C. Hold-er, "C.D. Browne, I.R. Bishop, C.E.L. Ambrose, F. A. Rose, "C.A. Walch,

Final day (lunch); India won tosa

**Azharuddin passes** 

**Test milestone** 

infringement.

out an enormous yellow hose and started to water the square. In cricket there are simply no

guarantees, but wheo the umpires unnecessarily re-inforce that by being overly pedantic, it does the game's image as a sport for softies no good at all. If this was an eod-of-season game belight was therefore totally sub-jective, but both felt it had to be is doubtful whether a minute's play would bave been lost. Far more gratifying for the few

bardy souls who did turn up was the determined way in which Ben Hollioake went about upstaging his elder and more established brother, Adam. Sibling rivalries can be intense, but Hollioake the younger did not let the situation provoke him and his prompt re-moval of big brother showed a cool-headed talent at work. For a 19-year-old, Hollioake

junior is an exciting prospect. On the evidence of his contributions bere - a rapid unbeaten 46 and a deserving 3 for 22 in the second innings - Hollloake senior, Eddie Nicholls did not spot the for all his impressive leadership and all-round ability on the Azharuddin bas been one of England A tour in Australia, the game's most eye-catching may struggle to head the in-

teer, but on this tour he has ap-peared out to have his heart in Season will undoubtedly bring. The cricketing genes are strong it. He was replaced as captain and the pair's father played Shield cricket for Victoria. Both brothlandmark but fell well sbort of ber after serving to the post for ers were born in Melbourne, but another as the rain-ruined fifth five years and, with the pressure for the record, Adam has always and final Test meandered to- off, responded with three magmaintained that Beo is the more nificent ceoturies in the home naturally talented.

> and away Tests against South Unlike his elder brother. Africa that preceded this series. wbo weot to school at St He has 17 Test hundreds in his George's Weybridge, Beo was 83 Tests, spread around against educated at Millfield School, a baveo for the sportingly talall opponents except the West

Although be had a fine tour of Pakistan with the Eogland Under 19 team, this was only his fourth first-class match and there is exciting scope for further improvement. He is righthanded, but if he can make more use of a lazy left arm when be bowls he will gain in both pace and awkwardness.

He dismissed his brother, who gloved a lifter to the keeper, and Mark Ealham, who was caught in the gulty driving at an outswinger, and had enough pace to force Anthony McGrath to play back oo to his stumps

when the batsman was going well. It is an ability much sought af-ter but rarely possessed by one so young and Surrey will be culpable of bringing the game into disrepute if they leave him in the second team this seasoo.



Hilton Head, South Carolina, on Sunday - his first win for 31 months Photograph: AP

# Irwin wins by record margin

Hale Irwin recorded the largest margio of victory ever at a Senior Tour event when he won his second consecutive PGA Se-niora' Champiooship by 12 strokes in Palm Beach Gardens. Florida, on Suoday. He won \$216,000 (£135,000).

Irwin, who held a seveostroke lead eotering the final round of the second major tournament of the year, fired a 68 on to finish at a 14-under 274, t2 shots better than Dale Douglass and the 1991 champioo, Jack Nicklaus.

Joho Morgan, Jack Kiefer and Gibby Gilbert finished tied for Jourth at ooe-under. Kiefer shot a 70. Gilbert fired a 71, and

Morgan a secood straight 72. Irwin, 51, twice the US Open champion, picked up his third victory of the year and his seventh career Senior Your title and overtook Gil Morgan and David Graham at the top of the mooey list with \$596,531.

The previous-best victory margin at a Senior event was 11 strokes, shared by Arnold Palmer at the 1985 Senior Touroament Players' Championship and Orville Moody at the 1988 Vintage Chrysler Invitational. said.

Alan Cooke, the England No 3 and los-ing finalist in Glasgow on Sunday in the Commonwealth Championships, is poised to retire from competitive action. Cooke, 31, from Chesterfield, is tipped

Irwin started his round by eagling the par-five, 539-yard third hole, hitting a four-wood to the green before sinking a 35-foot putt. Irwio followed that with a birdie oo the fourth.

After making the turn, Irwin hit a sand wedge oo 10 hefore tapping in for birdie. His only hlemish was oo 11, where he three-putted for bogey. He also sank a 12-foot birdie putt oo 16 before parring the final two holes. "My hope was to continue playing the type of game I had been playing, and that was to be aggressive when I felt the oeed or the situation arose," Irwin

MONTEL CATELO MENTS OPTER TOURSMANISM Singles, first rearnet 3 Bruguera (Spi bt / Suncha 15al 6-4 6-1 M Lanson 15we) it if Aras Mindles 6-3 6-3 C. Plaud (Mon / 15 Schallamer Menth 6-6-2 S Dasselai (Cz Rep) bt G (Murten (Bri 6-7 3-6-1: F Santons (Fr) bt F Rept (Spi 6-4 6-1 I Courier (US) bt D (Monte) (Mon 6-3 3-6 6-0; A Santons (Fr) in Mon 6-3 3-6 6-0; A Santons (Fr) in Mon 6-3 3-6 6-0; A Santons (Fr) in M Caustariston (Swel 7-6 6-2 C Coors (Spi bt K Nauera (Stock) 6-2 6-7 6-4; C Pisine (Fr) in C Camparase (16 3-3 6-4; EARABER (Spi 6-3 6-4); C Pisine (Fr) in C Camparase (16 3-3 6-4; EARABER (Spi 6-3 6-4); EARABER (ATP RANKINGS); 1 P Sumpas (US)

LEADBIG ATP PANERHOUSE: 1 P Sampas (US) 5.1180s; 2 T Master (Aut) 3.702; 3 M Chang (US) 3.607; 4 Y Kathinstov (Pus) 3.147; 5 R Kesjick (Near) 2.839; 8 G hanseuc (Cros) 2,710; 15 T Henmen (GB) 1,611.

# Popplewell to face charge

**Rugby Union** KIERAN DALEY

Nick Popplewell, the Ireland and Newcastle prop, has been ordered to appear before a Rugby Football Union nation-al disciplinary panel for bringing the game into disrepute by punching Bedford's Scott Mur-

ray two weeks ago. Newcastle's rugby director, Rob Andrew, fined his old Lions colleague a week's wages -believed to be £1,000 - reprimanded him and warned the player as to his future conduct. However, having studied the evidence at length, Roy Manock, the chairman of the RFU disciplinary commission, bas decided that Popplewell's act may

merit further penalty. Bedford were extremely unhappy at Newcastle treatment of the prop. "Popplewell's pun-ishment hardly fits the crime especially as the punch could have endangered not only a young man's eyesight but also nis whole future in the game," a Bedford spokesman said.

Because Popplewell was shown only a yellow card by the referee, Bedford could not cite the Irishman for the punch and the prop must be dealt with under the provision of disrepute, which has been used only twice before, since, the national

panel was formed. If Popplewell had been sent off for punching, be would have received a minimum ban of one mooth. If found guilty next week, that is

the likely suspension.

Bristol are likely to reject an offer from Bath for Mark Regan, their 25-year-old England hooker, but the player has wel-comed the bid. The reported £65,000 attempt to buy out the remaining year of Regan's con-tract may be too low, with Bristol aware of interest from Wasps and Richmond.

"I baven't bad any talks with Bath but I'm flattered that they have shown an interest," Regan said. "It allows me to keep my options open when I come to review my future at the eod of the

Regan had previously said: "Mooey talks, but you have to remember where you come from Bristol have been everything to me."

Tooy Swift, the Bath chief executive, refused to comment on the approach for Regan. Brendan Cannon, a Queens-

land front-row forward, is planning to appeal against the severity of a 15-week ban for stamping on the New South Wales winger, Alistair Murdoch, in a ruck during Queensland's 26-16 victory in a spiteful Super-12 match in Sydney on Saturday match in Sydney on

# **Rovers pick Simms**

Rugby League DAVE HADFIELD

Steve Simms, who resigned at Halifax at the start of this season, bas been named as the new coach at Featherstooe Rovers. Simms has been hired oo an 18-mooth contract, emerging from a short-list that also included local candidates, John Joyner and Dave Topliss, with his first job being to stabilise the side's precarious positioo cear the bottom of the First Division. Beyond that, Rovers, with an improving ground and a wealth of tradition, have other goals. The board have every confideoce in Steve's ability to achieve Rovers' ambitioo to play at the highest level," the club said in announcing Simms as successor to David Ward. "Steve Simms has the relevant coaching qualities, bearing in mind his Super League experience, to match Rovers' Super

League aspirations."

Simms made his name coaching the junior sides at South Sydney. He coached Leigh for year.

SRI LANKA— First husings 390 (H Tile 103; Seqisin Mushtaq 5-88)

PARISTAN – First Insings
(Overnight: 200 for 2)
ist Ahmed Charmeers b Muselthson —
Salan Mebit run out —
Insamen — Heat caub b Muselthson —
Anti Mujuba c and b Muselthson —
Anti Mujuba c and b Muselthson —
Anti Mujuba c and b Muselthson —
Saglein Muselthson not out —

England A v The Rest

THE REST - First leadings 350 for 6 dec (M R Romonskesh 108 no, R / Warren 50).

R Hompresesh 308 no, R J Waren SO).

ENGLAND A – Second insingle
(Overright 41 for 3)

A McCrest b Hollosle

"A J Hollosle c Waren b Hollosle
M A Eatham e Rampratash b Hollosle
M K Hegg e Medigh b Solante
G Chapple not out

O W Headley c Hollosle b Broten

Solante no.

D W Headley c Holkonie b Brown 23
Schras (12, 16, W. A. nb2) 14
Total (for 8 des., 58.5 overs) 273
Felt 4-109, 5-122, 6-123, 7-123, 8-173.
Did not bet; P M Such, A J Herne.
Bowling: Shenwood 13-1-39-0; Brown 15.5-35-0-; Budre 6-2-2-2-3; Solanie 12-5-33-1.
THE REST - Second Insings
D L Meddy not out 5
I S Laney not out 4
Batters 90.

Districts (for Q, 1.5 owners)

Total (for Q, 1.5 owners)

Did not bat C J Adams. "M R Remyshhaft, B C Holisole, 16 J Marren, V S Scienti, D A Craise, A J Tudor, S J E Brown, C E W Steiermood.

Bowling: Headiny 1-0-8-0; Crappia 0.3-0-1-

stress H D Bird and R Peimer.

The Rest won toss

First Test

two years before taking over at Halifax in 1994. He will take charge for the first time against Widnes oo Sunday, but Joyner - widely regarded as favourite for the job - is planning to take

a break from the game. The former Castleford coach pulled out of the running at the weekeod. Unlike him, Topliss, who has been out of the game since leaving Wakefield three years ago, says he is ready to return and will try for other jobs. The St Helens second-row forward, Chris Morley. will learn today wbether he will have to face a disciplinary hearing later this week over a tackle for which he was placed on report. Morley was reported over a suspected high challeoge oo Warrington's Toa Kohe-Love oo Sunday. A suspension of more than a single match would rule him out of the Challeoge Cup final at Wembley on 3 May.

Next seasoo's final will also be at its traditional venue, as work on upgrading Wembley will oot begin until later in the

Franklyn Rose.

American football errue Kosar, the Miami Dolphins hack. sts. Kosar led the Miami Humcanes to the first of their four national cham-pionships in 1983, but is most close-ly identified with Ceveland who he left to the AFC Central tide in his first three seasons with them from 1985-7, and again in 1989. In November 1993 he again in 1989, In November 1993 he joined the Dallas Cowboys and wor a Super Bowl ring that season as their back-up quarterback.

Baseball

MERCAN LEMBUR: Batumon 11 Bacton 1: Deton 2 Quebral 2. Ceroland 6 Mileauline 4: Ohrajo Wines Sor 8 New York Yankees 7: 11 Immigrajourneem 11 Ramsas Chi.
Facilita 11 Ramsas Chi.
Searte 10 Minnesota 6.

Mattonia LEMBUR: New York Mets 8 Chicago
Cubi 2 (first gamer): Drudgo Cubi 4 New Info
Mets 3 (peccond gamer): Minnesot 5 Phicadeolina 0
(first gamer): Minnesot 3 Phicadeolina 0
(gamer): Prostaugh 5 Oncernan 3: Colondor
9 Adante 2 Houston 3 Los angles 1: San Franscoo 2 Romato 0: San Dego 2 St Louis 2.

# Basketball

MBA: Toronto 125 Basson 94, Washington 85 Cassand 81: Detrot 124 Indiana 120 (dt) Pertiand 100 Le Laken 96; Neussan 103 San Amo-nia 99, New Jorsey 103 Admis 94, Ministraed 120 Challotte 100; Uran 113 Sacramento 109. Spencer Oliver, from Barnet, has lined

up a chakinge for the Bulganan Mar-tin Krastev's European super-ban-tamweight tide. The book will take place at the Picketts Lock Lessure Centre in North London on 20 May. The unbeat-en Oliver took the Southern Area title with his 10th straight win in February white Krastev has only been deleated

# Equestrianism

Robert Smith has lost his immensely promising show jumper, Big Time, with whom he finished fourth in the Volvo world Cup qualifier at Bologna in February. The eight-year-old stallion died at the unokend after an arranged of skend after an attack of colic.

# SAUMUR THREE-DAY EVENT (France): 1 king Solomon 81 M lang, GB - 26,6 penathes; 2 Loop Hole (# Alonangon, II) 56,6; 3 Dawide (# Alonangon, II) 56,6; 3 Dawide (# Alonangon, III) 57,2; 4 Mogh Sanstano (M Rhan, Audi 80) 8. Best of other Brighter 7 Fattorine IV. III Fowers 173 C. 8 Grocous Mel III Grahmed 173 C. Teamer 16 S 224,6 penathes: 2 Fattorine 268 45; 3 Belgum 367 J. Landing Land Rower FE World Three-Day Event rankings 1 M Ming (68) 17655; 2 E Moronzon (III) 67; 3 A Nicholson (NC) 64, 4 M Rhan (Aus) 61.

### Football

POTTOMONIN (QUADE TO THE STATE OF THE POTTOMONIN POUT H SQUAD (European Under 18 Champional): quadrier v Portugal, Bury, 29 April: Weaver (Dent), Sasonean Transcet, Grove (Astronia), Carlo (Marchest (Marchest), Carlo (Marchest), Cover (Astronia), Carlo (Marchest), Cover (Greenbard, Dyer (Greenbard, Cover (Greenbard), Dyer (Ipsacht), Richols (Charlton), Platts (Shofflet) Wodn's July, Richols (Charlton), Platts (Shofflet) Wodn's July, Portes (Novech), Ocean (Jaspool), Bridger (Shofflet), Nod-Williams (Madort), Lishis (Charlton), Nod-Williams (Madort), Nod-Williams (Mador

Rose-visitating National, Listing Charteria.

SINDAN'S LATE RESILES: World Cap Concacer
Zone (Fondoro, Mana): United States 2 Phone
25. N Searcing The Mercar 2 referencedo 1, Nornardo: 56. Spanigh Laughar. Alpeino Nation 3

Alpaien 21, 86. Commero 85: Valadad 1 (Dueveto 88): Sporting Cyon 1 (Chenses 51): Etrematera 1 (Duré 56): Swille 2 (Duida 26,
E-Proporta For John 1 Lamber 1, Stora 74). percentar 1 (Dinés 56); Seville 2 (Dunés 25); prosecute 72) ceta large (0.1); croste 5 (Soca 74); Rando 2 (Bando 10, per 56); Composita 2 (Dhen 1, 51); Herado 2 (America 2); Marajo 59, Wileya og 68); Zuragoto 3 (Poyet 42); Manerica 5, 187; Rota Societad 1, (Coducation 24); Deedo 9, Santandor 3 (Libose 48); Edunyo 1 (Dudoce 70); Barrication 3 (Aberrado 49); Romado dos Arberto Estado 0, Germania Languez VIII Suratos dos Arberto Estado 0, Germania Languez VIII Suratos dos Arberto Estado 0, Germania Languez VIII Suratos dos Arberto Estado 0, Burrica mango 9, Sergio 42, Austria 681; Balleto Languez Napoli 0, Ralanto 1 (Incape 20); Balgot Languez Societa 
Zullas Sura 4 (Codrado Rando 5); Nos England 
Revoluças 2 Tampa Say Musmy 1.

Open championship organisers yester-day clarifled meir decision to allow any-one under the age of 13 to go to the tournament at Troon, in July, free of charge. Instead of just inviting young-sters to turn up on the day, juvervie

badges can now be obtained in advance by writing to the Royal and Ancient Club's ocket office, St Andrews, NY16 9JD, accompanied by some identification. NERMINEE CLASSEC Philms Weed bland, 3th Caroline) Leading final secret (US unless noted; 289 in Price (2mt) 45 69 69 66, 276 1 Pamerk I Siee 17 71 66 66; B Fason 66 69 10 70, 278 H Satton 67 74 1 66; Cements 67 68 73 70; Lemman 66 73 67 72, 279 J Cost 72 74 66 67; T Watton 69 70 70 71, 281 J Cost 70 73 74 64; S Hoch 70 72 74 65; C Saster 68 71 74 68 11, 282 J Senders 70 75 70 6; P Standards 73 66 75 67; D Edwards 71 73 67 69 69; R Fetz 66 69 77 70; S Burn 72 73 67 70, 238 H Mediate 71 73 75 77; S Burn 72 73 67 70, 238 R Mediate 71 73 75 77; P McCetton 68 69 77 70; I Haary At 70 69 71; P Magning 68 69 77 70; I Haary At 70 69 71; P Magning 68 69 77 70; I Haary At 70 69 71; P McCetton 68 72 72 72; D Hammond 71 71 70 72; B Waldons 73 68 70 73.

### ice hockey

SUNDAY'S LATE RESULTS: World Championship (Kntowice, Pol): Pool B: Betons 6 Austra 4; Nazarianshin 5 Dermark 4; Netherlands 3 Poland 1: Britan 3 Sectorard 3.

# HALF-THRE: Score Draws (7): 3. 8. 17, 28, 28, 34, 36. No Score Draws (20): 11, 12, 13, 21, 23, 29, 38, 42, 46, 47. No extints required, with many sent unannutically; dividend forecast is good.

Fig. 1781: Source Drawn [14]: 1. 4, 6, 9, 15, 17, 23, 26, 30, 35, 36, 37, 40, 44, No Source Drawn [3]: 11, 13, 29, Newy Whee [11]: 7, 12, 19, 24, 28, 38, 43, 45, 45, 47, 49, No Column Inquired: stableted Streems is very low. Rugby League AUSTRALIAN SUPER LEAGUE: Pennsh Pointhers 27 Brisbane Broncos 28.

The Austran sky federation yesterday said it would decide on Monday what action to take against the ski jumper Andrees

# SPORTING DIGEST

Goldberger, the overall World Cup six jumping and ski flying champion in 1995 and 1996, who has admitted to using occaine at a disco in Vienna a year ago. He dismissed accusations he had reg-ularly bought, sold and consumed lasts are the ski but during the state. Snooker

SHIRONKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS (The Cruchie, Sheffleid) First round: N Derwry Lift in M Dave (Day 10-48; O'Sulson First for the Proceeding 10-6 firstness scores (O'Sulson First) 58-14 74-60 8-70 61-52 50-67 38-51 23-55 74-27 82-9 1-9 68-8 4-71 74-1 147-0 147 break 17-63 81-56; D Morgan (Ma) at D Willerson (Exp. 10-5; 8 Sendion (Score loss) A McMarus (Score 5-3 Imatch resumes 10 an this morning).

# to land a top coaching appointment to be announced soon by the English Table Tennis Association and is expected to play his last matches for England at the World championships starting on Thurs-day at Manchester's G-Mex Centre.

## Football UEFA CUP SEMI-FINALS SECOND LEG

Monaco (1) v Internazionale (3) ....... Schalke (4 (0) v Tenerite (1) (7.45) ..... FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP Blackburn v Sheffield Wed NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE FIRST DRYSION Operator Manchester City (7.45) ..... Portemouth v Barnsley (7.46) .....

SECOND DIVISION
Blackpool v Brentford...
Laten v Bury (7.45) ....
Stockport v York
Wrexham v Crewo ..... GM VALUGIALL CONFERENCE Macciosticid v Woking (7.45) Morecambe v Stalybridge (7.45)

TAK ESSET PLANS COMMUNITY ASSESSED AND ASSESSED ASSESSED

# BARCELONA OPEN: Mest's singles final: A Costa (Spi bt A Portas (Sp) 7-5 6-4 6-4. TODAY'S FIXTURES

Divisions Bariang v Wernbloy (7.45); Colter Row & Romford v Mempolitain Police (7.45); Dorking v Benetsed: Ware v Bedford Town (7.45); Dorking v Benetsed: Ware v Bedford Town (7.45); Wernboe v Horsham (7.45). Third Division: Epsom & Evell v Homehurch (7.45).
UNEDONO LEAGUE Premier Divisions Affector v Findley; Barnber Bridge v Byth Sportans; Galve-bocough Treithy v Runcom; Knowstey v Guiseley; Leek v Colwyh Bây, Finat Division; Great Hanucod v Longh; Hernogate Town v Gestra: Lincoln Utd v Worksop; Stocksbridge v Congletton; Workington v Adversor LS.

DE MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Division: Ath-

Workington v Athenton LS.

DR MARTEYS LEAGUE Premier Division: All-erstone v Sabshuri: Carbridge Cdy v Ashfurd;
Dorchester v Gloucester (7 45); Hillesowen Town v Stitingtourne (7 45); Sudbury Town v Chei-terham, Bildaud Division: Biospon v Gontham; Moor Green v Seston Coldifield; Shapphad Dy-namo v Bisson (7 45); Southern Division: Con-deniford v Weston-super-Mare (7 45); Newport John V Basthey (7 45); Yette v Fleet, NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier Dhislam: Ample v Denoty: North Fently v Belger, Ossett Alban v Hucknott Pakenng v Engg Pan-NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Di-vision: Holler Ott Boys v Pennth; Nanevich Town v Burscough.

vetoce: Holier Oil 100/4 Vetrini: Netheron Toes - Burscoupt, Series LEAGUE Premier Division 17. 451: Feliasone v Creek Yermouth; Gorieston v Dass; Heliason v Woodlandigs; Herveth & Parle-ston v Meumathet, Lowerfolt v Stowmarket; Whosham v Falteribam. STORLEAD KENT LEAGUE: Counthigh v

# LEADING WTA RANKINGS: 1 M Hings (Surt): 3 S Graf (Ger 1; 3 M Setes (US); 4 J Noustra (C Repl : 5 A Senchez Vicento (Sp); 6 C Marenez (Sp) Besienham (6.0); Greenwich Borough v Cray Wanderes (6.0); Heme Bay v Fayenham (7.45). INTERLINIK EXPRESS INDILAND ALLIANCE: Bloowch v Pelsai v Mist Chaestum v West Md-lands Policy Knyaeytav Vervala v Brooker: Bu-

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE CUP PRESS & JOURNAL HIGH AND LEAGUE FOR CECTIFICATION.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City v Certaive;
Holywell v Rhyl.

HARP MATIONAL LEAGUE OF RELAND Protries Division: Deny City v Cork City; Broy Warddents v Shelbourne.

PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: Evenon

V Transper (7.0).

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Di-vision; Watford v Queen's Park Rangers. Rugby Union 7.30 unless stated COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP No.

Other sports

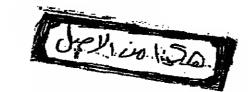
### CRICKET SCOREBOARD Oxford Univ v Hampshire COLOMBO: Paidstan are 370 for 9 in reply to a first-leakings total of 330 by Sri Lante.

Thins from b Muralitrason 0 Sequential Muralitrason 51 Muralitrason 52 Muralitrason 53 Muralit

G Pater Ind Out 39
IA P Sonn not Qu 20
Extrae ICI, 189, w6, n649 22
Fetal Bor 7, 84.2 overs) 22
Fetal 14.2 25, 3-35, 4-54, 5-102, 6-118, 7-137.
Did not bet: J M M Avers, D F Memire.
Bowling Concret 4-9.0; Mikes II 6-4-4; Lierres, 13-2-5; Maccorotics 30-3-6-3-6; Ude 24.5-12, 3-30. Stophesson 6-1-13-0; Whater 1.4-0-16-0, Ulamphree: J H Herre and M A Mattender.

# TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of consecutive games at the start of the season lost by paseball's Chicago Cubs - the second-longest season-opening losing streak ever in the major leagues. The Cubs finally registered a victory on Sunday, beating New York Mets 4-3.



by fans' abuse, page 26

sador for the game.

His threat to retire did not ac-

since then he has taken up

running and lost weight. "I'm

in my amateur days hut since I





O'Sullivan: 'I was shaking

O'Sullivan aims to realise maximum potential

**GUY HODGSON** As Ronnie O'Sullivan played his first ball in the 14th frame of his match against Mick Price yesterday, he declined to go for a difficult red, thinking: "I'm quite enjoying playing safety at the moment." Five minutes and 20 seconds later he had scored the fastest maximum

Safety first, devastation second as 36 balls were were potted in 320 seconds. It worked out at one every nine seconds and, adding the £147,000 prize to the second red," O'Sullivan out at one every nine seconds

for the 147 clearance to £18,000 said after his 10-6 first-round vicfor the highest break at the Embassy World Championship, £515 per second of the frame.

It was the fourth maximum at the world championship and the latest in a list of remarkable feats from a 21-year-old who, the six-times world champion Stephen Hendry's remarkable record notwithstanding is the outstanding personality in snooker. Last year he disgraced himself at the Crucible by assaulting a press officer, this year he has hit the headlines for the right reasons.

tory over Price. "I was in the balls and all I could think was maxi."

After his one safety shot. O'Sullivan relentlessly potted ball after ball, going out of position only once when he nearly snookered himself on the penultimate red with the pink. Just enough of the ball was showing. however, and once that dropped the rest was a formality.
The pace was astounding, the

total time for the break being one minute and 49 seconds faster than the previous best, set by Thailand's James Wattana in the 1992 British Open. "If I bad

stopped and thought I'd have probably missed," O'Sullivan said. "I was shaking like a leaf. I was m bits. But I thought: 'If I stop you're just going to break the rhythm'." At one point O'Sullivan dropped his chalk leaving it behind in his hurry to

complete the frame. The maximum follows a turbulent season for O'Sullivan which has included two tonmament victories and an outburst at the European Open in Malta last month when he announced he wanted to give up the sport. Typically, he withdrew the comment at the next event, saying:

"People should take with a pinch of salt some of the things I say . It wasn't the first time I said I was going to quit and I don't suppose it will be the last."

If that points to a remarkable

young man finding fame hard to handle, then the impression is correct. The world No 8 from Chigwell, Essex, got his first 100 break at 10 and at 17 became the youngest winner of an international professional tournament. This coincided with his father being given a life sentence for murder.

The resultant publicity would have affected the most stable of

personalities and 12 months in Snooker wasn't the most in portant thing in my life. ago his career appeared to be heading for oblivion. He re-

"I'm coming to terms with things. I'm 21 and a man new and ceived a suspended two-year I have to start acting like a one ban and a £20,000 fine after the I had to get it together. I was ou of order last year. I've admitted assault in Sheffield. He then vowed to become a "model that. Now it's the real me." professional and an ambas-

The real Ronnie is not easy to locate, but if O'Sullivan could realise his potential cord with that ambition but would be the natural success to Hendry, whom he is sched uled to meet in the quarterpractising harder now than I nals. I'm here to win the have for four or five years," he tournament." he said yesterday. said yesterday. "I was like that The maximum is history now It is in all senses of the word turned pro it nearly did my brain

as lead

# Swinburn's career in the balance

Racing

**GREG WOOD** 

The riding career of Walter Swinburn, which has included a Derby winner and a near-fatal accident in the last two years alone, took a new turn yesterday when the jockey announced his intention to take "a sabbatical from race-riding". The 35-yearold rider said that his decision was the result of a "continuing weight problem", but he added that "it is certainly not on my mind to retire altogether".

In a statement, Swinburn said: "I am taking this step in the long-term interests of my career. I would not be fair to myself or anyone else if I did not give my body or my metabolism a chance to settle down, and it has significantly failed to do that over recent months, in spite of rigid adherence to a medically supervised dict."

Swinhurn's announcement prompted complete astonishment throughout racing, not simply because of its substance, but also as a result of its timing. On Saturday week, he bad been due to partner the most highly regarded horse of his generation, Entrepreneur, in the 2,000 Guineas, the first Classic of the season. Entrepreneur is already the ante-post favourite for the Derby, an event which Swinburn has won three times, most memorably on Shergar when he

was just 19 years old. Like Shergar, Entrepreneur is trained by Michael Stoute, who stood by Swinburn when many felt he was too young and inexperienced to ride a Derby favourite, and has been his most significant employer ever since. "Naturally I am hugely disappointed to be forced into making this decision," the jock- campaign lay before him.

No. 3279 Tuesday 22 April

**ACROSS** 

ill-gotten (4.5)
11 A live American is crossing

L. Confirm losing right to fol-

13 Leaked file hits shipping

lo Silvery element; try it out

18 Feature of Labour Confer-

cars (3,4) 20 Robin doubled up as an or-

nithologist? (7)
21 A Cape trip organised for

23 Agitated man fanciful re-

one (3,6)

ence which slowed down old

state of unrest (7)

with hesitation (7)

the centre of the vessel (5)

safety? (9) 14 Casual walk leads one into a

10 In this your gains can only be 25

tion? (8,5)

ey added, "particularly when the year appears to hold so much promise for [Michael Stoute's] horses. I wish Mr Stoute and everyone at Freemason's Lodge a bugely successful year and hope that it is not too long before I am once again playing a

significant part in the story."
Stoute, too, expressed his regret at yesterday's news. "I have been very aware that life has been a struggle for him re-cently," the trainer said, "and I look forward to him coming back when the problem is un-



Swinburn: Weight problems der control, when he will most

certainly have my full support." Away from the track, Swinburn has not always lived up to his nickname of "the Choirboy", and last month he was fined

£500 and ordered to pay £600 in compensation after admitting an assault on a Newmarket restaurateur. During the pro-ceedings, Swinburn admitted to suffering from an eating disor-der which reduced his tolerance to alcohol, but when he returned to riding at Nottingham a fortnight later, there was little indication that anything but a full

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

Even by the rollercoaster standards of his profession. Swinburn's career has veered wildly from high to low. Less than two years ago, he won his third Derby on Lammtarra, only to lose the ride on the sub-sequent King George and Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner to Lanfranco Dettori shortly afterwards. Then, the following February, came the moment to which many will feel the rider's latest troubles can trace their origin, when in the space of a few desperate seconds at Sha Tin in Hong Kong, Swinburn was left battered and almost lifeless when his mount crashed

through a running-rail at speed. His protracted recovery from severe head and chest injuries was extended further when the Jockey Club refused to licence him to ride until six months from the date of his accident. As so often in such circumstances, Swinburn's comeback ride, at Windsor on 12 August, was a winner, and when he partnered Pilsudski to victory in the Breeders' Cup Turf, one of the world's most valuable races, in Canada three months later, it looked that his career had caught an upcurrent once again.
Yet now it seems that while

the obvious injuries from Sha Tin had bealed, other scars remained. Weight problems can strike a jockey at any moment, and while Swinburn inherited talent in abundance from his father, Wally, himself a leading rider, he has never had the scrawny build of a natural lightweight. It is just three months since Walter Swinburn walked across Ireland to raise £60,000 for charity. His personal journey towards full professional health, by contrast, remains far from complete.

Pop meant, seizing inspira-tion, to leave car - rides cost

15 Voice-over musical having

no difficulty in finding the

17 Album item to be changed?

19 Walks badly in, for example,

22 Organised Switzerland's cat-

23 Port makes one laugh about

a poem of Kipling's (5)

climbing to spot (7) 20 Talked of second science

Being so makes it impossible

room in place of horticulture

here (9,4)

words (9)

tle farm (5)

# Jim Courier, of the United States, plays an unorthodox backhand during his win over Dominik Hrabty in Monte Carlo yesterday Photograph: Re

# **Gullit adds Babayaro** to his foreign legion

Football

TOMMY STANIFORTH

Rund Gullit has beaten off competition from Juventus. Internazionale and Deportivo La Coruña to sign the Nigerian in-ternational Celestine Babayaro from the Belgian club, Ander-lecht, in a £2.25m deal.

Babayaro, who will not be 19 until August, will stay with Anderiecht for the rest of the season and arrive at Stamford Bridge in the summer, after signing a five-year contract with the FA Cup finalists. He will become

the latest member of Gullit's persuaded him to join Chelsea growing number of foreigners at Chelsea, joining (among others) Italy's Gianfranco Zola and Gianluca Vialli, Romania's Dan Petrescu and the Frenchman,

Franck Leboeuf. Babayaro, a left wing-back who won an Olympic gold medal for Nigeria in the USA last summer and scored one of their goals in the final, has been with Anderlecht from the age of 15. He has been pursued by Europe's top clubs after many impressive performances over the ast two seasons

whose managing director, Col-in Hutchinson, flew to Belgium

to complete the deal. "I told Rund I wanted to sign for Chelsea after only two conversations on the telephone. Babayaro said. "I am very hap-py be wants me in his team and I am looking forward to a great season with Chelsea."

Babayaro has never been to London and will need a British work permit to complete his move to Stamford Bridge. He watched Cheisea's FA Cup mi-final win over Wimbledon

# However, Gullit's reputation Monaco's mountain to climb

Mnnaco must find their best form if they are to overcome internazionale in the second leg of their Uefa Cup semi-final

The French champions-elect, who had won all their previous away legs in this season's competition, played poorly and lost 3-1 in the first leg in Italy two weeks ago.

Monaco's French international defender, Patrick Blondeau, said yesterday: "What we have to prove to everyone is that we're a great team by turning round an unfavourable result, something we haven't had to do this season.

Monaco, on the verge of their sixth French league title, found their game in the second half in Milan and scored what could prove to be a crucial goal from a substitute, the Nigerian striker Victor Ikpeba - their top scorer with six goals

Their difficulties continued with a 2-0 league defeat at Bordeaux last week, in which Ikpeba was on from the start. and the tension at their training camp in the mountains above the principality has been

palnable. But their coach Jean Tigana and his players have worked hard at concentrating their minds on tonight's tough task, when they must pull back two goals to stand any chance of reaching their second Euronean final, following a losing appearance in the 1992 European Cup-Winners' Cup to the Ger-

man side, Werder Bremen. "The objective from the start is to not concede a goal and to attack as much as possible," Tigana said. We've got to manage to score in the first half in order to not make the situation even more difficult for our-

Tigana will rely on the vet-

eran Enzo Scifo, who returns to his first club Anderlecht at the end of the season, to dictate play against another of his former

Inter, whose priority is one of Italy's two European Cup places next season, will look to close all the gaps in defence to avoid conceding the early goal. Inter were encouraged by a

2-1 away win against Cagliari on Saturday hut also by Udinese's 2-0 defeat of Parma which left them third in Serie A with just six games to play and a place in next season's European Cup a

Inter's experienced captain. Giuseppe Bergomi, said: "It was a big boost for us to win at Cagliari where no side, not even Juventus, had won for six months. I've always said that I'd prefer to finish second in the eague rather than win the Uefa Cup and therefore Parma's defeat was good news for us."

# MORSE

# **Computers** are human too.

Sometimes they let you down.

With this in mind, companies like Hewlett-Packard, EMC and MorseData are building enterprise-wide solutions that can ensure your computer systems are resilient to failure. So if a chip fries, a disk breaks or your computer suffers a sudden loss of memory, business is not interrupted.

Call for a copy of our intelligent storage executive briefing and let us help you plan for a breakdown.

Don't have one yourself.



Morse Data

The Weekend Editor apologises for the non-appearance of the Easter humbo Crossword solutions on Saturday. They will be printed next Saturday. CPublished by Newspaper Publishing PLC. I Canada Square, Canacy Wharf, Landon E14 5DL and printed at Mirror Colour Print, Sc Back risties available from Historic Newspapers, 01988 840370.

24 Turn in English pub rejected 9

Retail drinks outlet ripe for

Cycle shop owner could be a

Father gets church to organ-

about 50. in grotto (5)
It advertises trains in territo-

ise hoycott of foreign live-

Produce young animals

Cook ocean fish? (4-3)

8 One benefiting from re-

moval (5,8)

Banal tour arranged of dis-

tant capital (4,5) Swindle included hard case

stock? (9)

privatisation? (6,3)

nuthless capitalist (7-6)

اعكذا من المذعل